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# THE POOR MAN'S CRY.

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# THE POOR MAN'S CRY.

# THE POOR MAN'S CRY:

## A COLLECTION OF PRAYERS RECORDED IN THE HOLY SCRIPTURES.

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*"This poor man cried, and the Lord heard him, and saved him out of all his troubles."*—Ps. xxxiv. 6.

*"Blessed be ye poor: for yours is the kingdom of God."*—Luke vi. 20.

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# THE POOR MAN'S CRY.

## *THE LORD'S PRAYER.*

MATT. vi. 5.

WHEN thou prayest, thou shalt not be as the hypocrites are: for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and in the corners of the streets, that they may be seen of men. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward. But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret, shall reward thee openly. But when ye pray, use not vain repetitions, as the heathen do: for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking. Be not ye therefore like unto them: for your Father knoweth what things ye have need of before ye ask him. After this manner therefore pray ye:

## PRAYER—*v.* 9–13.

OUR Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

## PROMISE—Chap. vii. 7–11.

Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened. Or what man is there of you, whom if his son ask bread, will he give him a stone? Or if he ask a fish, will he give him a serpent? If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask him!

# ABRAHAM.

## *Concerning the Promised Seed and Inheritance.*

It was not written for his sake alone, that it was imputed to him; but for us also, to whom it shall be imputed, if we believe on him that raised up Jesus our Lord from the dead; who was delivered for our offences, and was raised again for our justification.—*Rom.* iv. 23–25.

GEN. XV. 1.

The word of the Lord came unto Abram in a vision, saying, Fear not, Abram: I am thy shield, and thy exceeding great reward. And Abram said,

PRAYER—*v.* 2.

LORD GOD, what wilt thou give me, seeing I go childless, and the steward of my house is this Eliezer of Damascus? . . . Behold, to me thou hast given no seed: and, lo, one born in my house is mine heir.

ANSWER—*v.* 4.

And, behold, the word of the Lord came unto him, saying, This shall *not* be thine heir; but he that shall

come forth out of thine own bowels shall be thine heir. And he brought him forth abroad, and said, Look now toward heaven, and tell the stars, if thou be able to number them: and he said unto him, So shall thy seed be. And he believed in the Lord; and he counted it to him for righteousness. And he said unto him, I am the Lord that brought thee out of Ur of the Chaldees, to give thee this land to inherit it. And he said,

PRAYER—*v.* 8.

LORD GOD, whereby shall I know that I shall inherit it?

ANSWER—*v.* 18.

In the same day the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying, Unto thy seed have I given this land, from the river of Egypt unto the great river, the river Euphrates.

PROMISE—Ps. xxv. 12–14.

What man is he that feareth the Lord?—him shall he teach in the way that he shall choose.
His soul shall dwell at ease;—and his seed shall inherit the earth.
The secret of the Lord is with them that fear him;—and he will show them his covenant.

## *For Ishmael his son.*

If ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.—*Gal.* iii. 29.

GEN. xvii. 15.

God said unto Abraham, As for Sarai thy wife, thou *shalt not call* her name Sarai, but Sarah shall her name

be. And I will bless her, and give thee a son also of her: yea, I will bless her, and she shall be a mother of nations; kings of people shall be of her. Then Abraham fell upon his face, and laughed, and said in his heart, Shall a child be born unto him that is an hundred years old? and shall Sarah, that is ninety years old, bear? And Abraham said unto God,

PRAYER—*v.* 18.

O THAT Ishmael might live before thee!

ANSWER—*v.* 19–21.

And God said, Sarah thy wife shall bear thee a son indeed; and thou shalt call his name Isaac: and I will establish my covenant with him for an everlasting covenant, and with his seed after him. And as for Ishmael, I have heard thee: Behold, I have blessed him, and will make him fruitful, and will multiply him exceedingly; twelve princes shall he beget; and I will make him a great nation. But my covenant will I establish with Isaac, which Sarah shall bear unto thee at this set time in the next year.

PROMISE—Deut. vii. 9.

Know . . . that the Lord thy God, he is God, the faithful God, which keepeth covenant and mercy with them that love him, and keep his commandments, to a thousand generations.

## *Before the Destruction of Sodom.*

If the righteous scarcely be saved, where shall the ungodly and the sinner appear?—1 *Pet.* iv. 18.

GEN. xviii. 17, 23.

The Lord said, Shall I hide from Abraham that thing which I do; seeing that Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him? For I know him, that he will command his children and his household after him, and they shall keep the way of the Lord, to do justice and judgment; that the Lord may bring upon Abraham that which he hath spoken of him. And the Lord said, Because the cry of Sodom and Gomorrah is great, and because their sin is very grievous, I will go down now, and see whether they have done altogether according to the cry of it, which is come unto me; and if not, I will know. . . . . And Abraham drew near, and said,

PRAYER—*v.* 23.

WILT thou also destroy the righteous with the wicked? Peradventure there be fifty righteous within the city: wilt thou also destroy and not spare the place for the fifty righteous that are therein? That be far from thee to do after this manner, to slay the righteous with the wicked: and that the righteous should be as the wicked, that be far from thee. Shall not the Judge of all the earth do right?

ANSWER—*v.* 26.

And the Lord said, If I find in Sodom fifty righteous within the city, then I will spare all the place for their sakes. And Abraham answered and said,

PRAYER—*v.* 27.

BEHOLD now, I have taken upon me to speak unto the Lord, which am but dust and ashes: Perad-

venture there shall lack five of the fifty righteous: wilt thou destroy all the city for lack of five?

ANSWER—*v.* 28.

And he said, If I find there forty and five, I will not destroy it. And he spake unto him yet again, and said,

PRAYER—*v.* 29.

PERADVENTURE there shall be forty found there.

ANSWER.

And he said, I will not do it for forty's sake. And he said unto him,

PRAYER—*v.* 30.

OH let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak: Peradventure there shall thirty be found there.

ANSWER.

And he said, I will not do it if I find thirty there. And he said,

PRAYER—*v.* 31.

BEHOLD now, I have taken upon me to speak unto the Lord: Peradventure there shall be twenty found there.

ANSWER.

And he said, I will not destroy it for twenty's sake. And he said,

PRAYER—*v.* 32.

OH let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak yet but this once: Peradventure ten shall be found there.

ANSWER—*v.* 32, 33; chap. xix. 29.

And he said, I will not destroy it for it for ten's sake.

And the Lord went his way, as soon as he had left communing with Abraham: and Abraham returned unto his place. . . . . And it came to pass, when God destroyed the cities of the plain, that God remembered Abraham, and sent Lot out of the midst of the overthrow, when he overthrew the cities in the which Lot dwelt.

PROMISE—Ps. ciii. 13, 14; Isa. xxx. 19.

Like as a father pitieth his children,—so the Lord pitieth them that fear him.
For he knoweth our frame;—he remembereth that we are dust.

He will be very gracious unto thee at the voice of thy cry;
When he shall hear it, he will answer thee.

## LOT (*to Angel*).

### *For leave to flee into Zoar.*

The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished. —2 *Pet.* ii. 9.

Gen. xix. 15.

When the morning arose, then the angels hastened Lot, saying, Arise, take thy wife, and thy two daughters, which are here; lest thou be consumed in the iniquity of the city. And, while he lingered, the men laid hold upon his hand, and upon the hand of his wife, and upon the hand of his two daughters, the Lord being merciful unto him: and they brought him forth, and set him without the city. And it came to pass, when they had

brought them forth abroad, that he said, Escape for thy life; look not behind thee, neither stay thou in all the plain: escape to the mountain, lest thou be consumed. And Lot said unto them,

PRAYER—*v.* 18.

OH! not so, my lord. Behold now, thy servant hath found grace in thy sight, and thou hast magnified thy mercy, which thou hast showed unto me in saving my life; and I cannot escape to the mountain, lest some evil take me, and I die. Behold now, this city is near to flee unto, and it is a little one: Oh! let me escape thither, (is it not a little one?) and my soul shall live.

ANSWER—*v.* 21-23.

And he said unto him, See, I have accepted thee concerning this thing also, that I will not overthrow this city, for the which thou hast spoken. Haste thee, escape thither; for I cannot do any thing till thou be come thither: therefore the name of the city was called Zoar. The sun was risen upon the earth when Lot entered into Zoar.

PROMISE—Isa. xxvii. 8.

In measure, when it shooteth forth, thou wilt debate with it:
He stayeth his rough wind in the day of the east wind.

# ELIEZER.

## *When seeking a wife for Isaac.*

With good will doing service, as to the Lord, and not to men: knowing, that whatsoever good thing any man doeth, the same shall he receive of the Lord, whether he be bond or free.—*Eph.* vi. 7, 8.

GEN. xxiv. 10.

The servant took ten camels, of the camels of his master, and departed; (for all the goods of his master were in his hand;) and he arose, and went to Mesopotamia, unto the city of Nahor. And he made his camels to kneel down without the city by a well of water at the time of the evening, even the time that women go out to draw water. And he said,

PRAYER—*v.* 12.

O LORD GOD of my master Abraham, I pray thee, send me good speed this day, and show kindness unto my master Abraham. Behold, I stand here by the well of water; and the daughters of the men of the city come out to draw water: and let it come to pass, that the damsel to whom I shall say, Let down thy pitcher, I pray thee, that I may drink; and she shall say, Drink; and I will give thy camels drink also: let the same be she that thou hast appointed for thy servant Isaac; and thereby shall I know that thou hast showed kindness unto my master.

ANSWER—*v.* 15, 17, 26.

And it came to pass, before he had done speaking, that, behold, Rebekah came out. . . . And the servant ran to meet her, and said, Let me, I pray thee, drink a little water of thy pitcher. And she said, Drink, my lord: and she hasted, and let down her pitcher upon her hand, and gave him drink. And when she had done giving him drink, she said, I will draw water for thy camels also, until they have done drinking. . . . And the man bowed down his head, and worshipped the Lord. And he said,

PRAYER—*v.* 27.

BLESSED be the Lord God of my master Abraham, who hath not left destitute my master of his mercy and his truth: I being in the way, the Lord led me to the house of my master's brethren.

PROMISE—Ps. xxxvii. 23; Isa. xxx. 21.

The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord;—and he delighteth in his way.

Thine ears shall hear a word behind thee, saying,—This is the way, walk ye in it,
When ye turn to the right hand, and when ye turn to the left.

# JACOB.

## *For Deliverance from his brother Esau.*

**Fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.—*Matt.* x. 28.**

Gen. xxxii. 6.

The messengers returned to Jacob, saying, We came to thy brother Esau, and also he cometh to meet thee, and four hundred men with him. Then Jacob was greatly afraid and distressed: and he divided the people that was with him, and the flocks, and herds, and the camels, into two bands; and said, If Esau come to the one company, and smite it, then the other company which is left shall escape. And Jacob said,

PRAYER—*v.* 9–12.

O GOD of my father Abraham, and God of my father Isaac, the Lord which saidst unto me, Return un-

to thy country, and to thy kindred, and I will deal well with thee: I am not worthy of the least of all the mercies, and of all the truth, which thou hast showed unto thy servant; for with my staff I passed over this Jordan, and now I am become two bands. Deliver me, I pray thee, from the hand of my brother, from the hand of Esau: for I fear him, lest he will come and smite me, and the mother with the children. And thou saidst, I will surely do thee good, and make thy seed as the sand of the sea, which cannot be numbered for multitude.

ANSWER—Chap. xxxiii. 1, 4.

And Jacob lifted up his eyes, and looked, and, behold, Esau came, and with him four hundred men. . . . And Esau ran to meet him, and embraced him, and fell on his neck, and kissed him: and they wept.

PROMISE—Prov. xviii. 10.

The name of the Lord is a strong tower:—the righteous runneth into it, and is safe.

## *When his Name was changed to Israel.*

He said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee; for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me: . . . for when I am weak, then am I strong.—2 *Cor.* xii. 9, 10.

Gen. xxxii. 24.

Jacob was left alone; and there wrestled a man with him until the breaking of the day. And when he saw that he prevailed not against him, he touched the hollow of his thigh; and the hollow of Jacob's thigh was out of joint as he wrestled with him. And he said, Let me go, for the day breaketh. And he said,

PRAYER—*v.* 26.

I WILL not let thee go, except thou bless me.

ANSWER—*v.* 27.

And he said unto him, What is thy name? And he said, Jacob. And he said, Thy name shall be called no more Jacob,* but Israel:† for as a prince hast thou power with God and with men, and hast prevailed. And Jacob asked him, and said,

PRAYER—*v.* 29.

TELL me, I pray thee, thy name.

ANSWER—*v.* 29, 30; Hos. xii. 3, 4.

And he said, Wherefore is it that thou dost ask after my name? And he blessed him there. And Jacob called the name of the place Peniel:‡ for I have seen God face to face, and my life is preserved.

By his strength he had power with God:
Yea, he had power over the angel, and prevailed;—he wept, and made supplication unto him.

PROMISE—Ps. cxlvi. 5.

Happy is he that hath the God of Jacob for his help,—whose hope is in the Lord his God.

# JOB.

## *His Complaints and Confessions.*

Behold, we count them happy which endure. Ye have heard of the patience of Job, and have seen the end of the Lord; that the Lord is very pitiful, and of tender mercy.—*James* v. 11.

* *Margin*, A supplanter. † *Margin*, A prince of God.
‡ *Margin*, The face of God.

**Knowing that tribulation worketh patience; and patience, experience; and experience, hope: and hope maketh not ashamed. —*Rom.* v. 3–5.**

JOB i. 18–22; iii. 1, 2; vii. 11.

There came also another, and said, Thy sons and thy daughters were eating and drinking wine in their eldest brother's house: and, behold, there came a great wind from the wilderness, and smote the four corners of the house, and it fell upon the young men, and they are dead; and I only am escaped alone to tell thee. Then Job arose, and rent his mantle, and shaved his head, and fell down upon the ground, and worshipped, and said, Naked came I out of my mother's womb, and naked shall I return thither: the Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord. In all this Job sinned not, nor charged God foolishly.

. . . . . .

After this opened Job his mouth, and cursed his day. And Job spake, and said,

. . . . . .

I will not refrain my mouth;—I will speak in the anguish of my spirit;
I will complain in the bitterness of my soul.

PRAYER—Chap. vii. 12–21; xiii. 20–28; xiv. 13–22.

AM I a sea, or a whale,—that thou settest a watch over me?
When I say, My bed shall comfort me,—my couch shall ease my complaint;
Then thou scarest me with dreams,—and terrifiest me through visions;
So that my soul chooseth strangling,—and death rather than my life.

I loathe it; I would not live alway:—let me alone;
for my days are vanity.
What is man, that thou shouldest magnify him?
And that thou shouldest set thine heart upon him?
And that thou shouldest visit him every morning,—
and try him every moment?
How long wilt thou not depart from me,—nor let me
alone, till I swallow down my spittle?
I have sinned; what shall I do unto thee, O thou
Preserver of men?
Why hast thou set me as a mark against thee,—so
that I am a burden to myself?
And why dost thou not pardon my transgression,—
and take away mine iniquity?
For now shall I sleep in the dust;
And thou shalt seek me in the morning, but I shall
not be.

. . . . . .

Only do not two things unto me;—then will I not hide
myself from thee.
Withdraw thine hand far from me;—and let not thy
dread make me afraid:
Then call thou, and I will answer;—or let me speak,
and answer thou me.
How many are mine iniquities and sins?—make me to
know my transgression and my sin.
Wherefore hidest thou thy face,—and holdest me for
thine enemy?
Wilt thou break a leaf driven to and fro?—and wilt
thou pursue the dry stubble?
For thou writest bitter things against me,
And makest me to possess the iniquities of my youth.
Thou puttest my feet also in the stocks,—and lookest
*narrowly unto* all my paths;

Thou settest a print upon the heels of my feet.
And he, as a rotten thing, consumeth,—as a garment that is moth-eaten.

. . . . . .

O that thou wouldest hide me in the grave,
That thou wouldest keep me secret, until thy wrath be past,
That thou wouldest appoint me a set time, and remember me!
If a man die, shall he live again?
All the days of my appointed time will I wait, till my change come.

Thou shalt call, and I will answer thee:
Thou wilt have a desire to the work of thine hands.
For now thou numberest my steps:—dost thou not watch over my sin?
My transgression is sealed up in a bag,—and thou sewest up mine iniquity.

And surely the mountain falling cometh to nought,
And the rock is removed out of his place.
The waters wear the stones:
Thou washest away the things which grow out of the dust of the earth;
And thou destroyest the hope of man.
Thou prevailest for ever against him, and he passeth:
Thou changest his countenance, and sendest him away.
His sons come to honour, and he knoweth it not;
And they are brought low, but he perceiveth it not of them.
But his flesh upon him shall have pain,—and his soul *within* him shall mourn.

ANSWER—Chap. xxxviii. 1, 2; xl. 1–3.

Then the Lord answered Job out of the whirlwind, and said,
Who is this that darkeneth counsel—by words without knowledge? . . . . . .

Moreover, the Lord answered Job, and said,
Shall he that contendeth with the Almighty instruct him?
He that reproveth God, let him answer it.

Then Job answered the Lord, and said,

PRAYER—Chap. xl. 4, 5; xlii. 2–6.

BEHOLD, I am vile: what shall I answer thee?—
I will lay mine hand upon my mouth.
Once have I spoken, but I will not answer;—yea, twice, but I will proceed no further.

. . . . . .

I know that thou canst do every thing,—and that no thought can be withholden from thee.
Who is he that hideth counsel without knowledge?
Therefore have I uttered that I understood not;
Things too wonderful for me, which I knew not.
Hear, I beseech thee, and I will speak:—I will demand of thee, and declare thou unto me.
I have heard of thee by the hearing of the ear;—but now mine eye seeth thee:
Wherefore I abhor myself,—and repent in dust and ashes.

ANSWER—Chap. xlii. 10, 12.

And the Lord turned the captivity of Job, when he prayed for his friends: also the Lord gave Job twice as much as he had before. . . . . So the Lord blessed the latter end of Job more than his beginning.

PROMISE—Ps. xciv. 12, 13; cxix. 71, 72.

Blessed is the man whom thou chastenest, O Lord,—
and teachest him out of thy law;
That thou mayest give him rest from the days of
adversity,
Until the pit be digged for the wicked.

It is good for me that I have been afflicted;—that I
might learn thy statutes.
The law of thy mouth is better unto me than thou-
sands of gold and silver.

# MOSES.

## *When Pharaoh increased the Israelites' Burdens.*

By grace are ye saved through faith.—*Eph.* ii. 8.

He which hath begun a good work in you, will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ.—*Phil.* i. 6.

EXOD. v. 19.

The officers of the children of Israel did see that they were in evil case, after it was said, Ye shall not minish ought from your bricks of your daily task. And they met Moses and Aaron, who stood in the way, as they came forth from Pharaoh: And they said unto them, The Lord look upon you, and judge; because ye have made our savour to be abhorred in the eyes of Pharaoh, and in the eyes of his servants, to put a sword in their hand to slay us. And Moses returned unto the Lord, and said,

PRAYER—*v.* 22, 23.

LORD, wherefore hast thou so evil-entreated this people? why is it that thou hast sent me? For

since I came to Pharaoh to speak in thy name, he hath done evil to this people; neither hast thou delivered thy people at all.

ANSWER—Chap. vi. 1, 6, 9.

Then the Lord said unto Moses, Now shalt thou see what I will do to Pharaoh: for with a strong hand shall he let them go, and with a strong hand shall he drive them out of his land. . . . . Wherefore say unto the children of Israel, I am the Lord, and I will bring you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians, and I will rid you out of their bondage; and I will redeem you with a stretched-out arm, and with great judgments. . . . . And Moses spake so unto the children of Israel: but they hearkened not unto Moses for anguish of spirit, and for cruel bondage. And the Lord spake unto Moses, saying, Go in, speak unto Pharaoh king of Egypt, that he let the children of Israel go out of his land. And Moses spake before the Lord, saying,

PRAYER—*v.* 12.

BEHOLD, the children of Israel have not hearkened unto me; how then shall Pharaoh hear me, who am of uncircumcised lips?

ANSWER—*v.* 13.

And the Lord spake unto Moses and unto Aaron, and gave them a charge unto the children of Israel, and unto Pharaoh king of Egypt, to bring the children of Israel out of the land of Egypt.

PROMISE—Exod. xv. 17, 18.

Thou shalt bring them in, and plant them in the mountain of thine inheritance,

In the place, O Lord, which thou hast made for thee to dwell in,
In the Sanctuary, O Lord, which thy hands have established.
The Lord shall reign for ever and ever.

## *When the People murmured for Water.*

They drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them; and that Rock was Christ.—1 *Cor.* x. 4.

EXOD. xvii. 1.

There was no water for the people to drink. Wherefore the people did chide with Moses, and said, Give us water that we may drink. And Moses said unto them, Why chide ye with me? wherefore do ye tempt the Lord? And the people thirsted there for water; and the people murmured against Moses, and said, Wherefore is this that thou hast brought us up out of Egypt, to kill us, and our children, and our cattle, with thirst? And Moses cried unto the Lord, saying,

PRAYER—*v.* 4.

WHAT shall I do unto this people? they be almost ready to stone me.

ANSWER—Ps. cv. 41, 42.

He opened the rock, and the waters gushed out,—they ran in the dry places like a river.
For he remembered his holy promise,—and Abraham his servant.

PROMISE—Ps. l. 15.

Call upon me in the day of trouble;—I will deliver thee, and thou shalt glorify me.

## *After Israel's Worship of the Golden Calf.*

No . . . covetous man, who is an idolater, hath any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God. Let no man deceive you with vain words: for because of these things cometh the wrath of God upon the children of disobedience. Be not ye therefore partakers with them.—*Eph.* v. 5, 7.

EXOD. xxxii. 9.

The Lord said unto Moses, I have seen this people, and, behold, it is a stiff-necked people: Now therefore let me alone, that my wrath may wax hot against them, and that I may consume them; and I will make of thee a great nation. And Moses besought the Lord his God, and said,

PRAYER—*v.* 11.

LORD, why doth thy wrath wax hot against thy people, which thou hast brought forth out of the land of Egypt with great power, and with a mighty hand? Wherefore should the Egyptians speak, and say, For mischief did he bring them out, to slay them in the mountains, and to consume them from the face of the earth? Turn from thy fierce wrath, and repent of this evil against thy people. Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, thy servants, to whom thou swarest by thine own self, and saidst unto them, I will multiply your seed as the stars of heaven; and all this land that I have spoken of will I give unto your seed, and they shall inherit it for ever.

ANSWER—*v.* 14, 31.

And the Lord repented of the evil which he thought to do unto his people.

. . . . .

And Moses returned unto the Lord, and said,

PRAYER—*v.* 31.

OH! this people have sinned a great sin, and have made them gods of gold! Yet now, if thou wilt forgive their sin—; and if not, blot me, I pray thee, out of thy book which thou hast written.

ANSWER—*v.* 33–35.

And the Lord said unto Moses, Whosoever hath sinned against me, him will I blot out of my book. Therefore now go, lead the people unto the place of which I have spoken unto thee. Behold, mine Angel shall go before thee: nevertheless in the day when I visit, I will visit their sin upon them. And the Lord plagued the people, because they made the calf which Aaron made.

PROMISE—ISA. xlv. 21, 22.

Tell ye, and bring them near;—yea, let them take counsel together:
Who hath declared this from ancient time?—who hath told it from that time?
Have not I the Lord? and there is no God else beside me;
A just God, and a Saviour: there is none beside me.
Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth;
For I am God, and there is none else.

## *Concerning the Presence and the Glory of the* LORD.

Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God. Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God.—*Matt.* v. 7–9.

EXOD. xxxiii. 11, 12.

The Lord spake unto Moses face to face, as a man

speaketh unto his friend. . . . . And Moses said unto the Lord,

PRAYER—*v.* 12.

SEE, thou sayest unto me, Bring up this people: and thou hast not let me know whom thou wilt send with me: yet thou hast said, I know thee by name, and thou hast also found grace in my sight. Now therefore, I pray thee, if I have found grace in thy sight, show me now thy way, that I may know thee, that I may find grace in thy sight; and consider that this nation is thy people.

ANSWER—*v.* 14.

And he said, My presence shall go with thee, and I will give thee rest. And he said unto him,

PRAYER—*v.* 15.

IF thy presence go not with me, carry us not up hence. For wherein shall it be known here that I and thy people have found grace in thy sight? Is it not in that thou goest with us? so shall we be separated, I and thy people, from all the people that are upon the face of the earth.

ANSWER—*v.* 17.

And the Lord said unto Moses, I will do this thing also that thou hast spoken; for thou hast found grace in my sight, and I know thee by name. And he said,

PRAYER—*v.* 18.

I BESEECH thee, show me thy glory.

ANSWER—*v.* 19; chap. xxxiv. 5.

And he said, I will make all my goodness pass before thee, and I will proclaim the name of the Lord before

thee; and will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy.

. . . . . .

And the Lord descended in the cloud, and stood with him there, and proclaimed the name of the Lord. And the Lord passed by before him, and proclaimed, The Lord, the Lord God, merciful and gracious, long-suffering, and abundant in goodness and truth, keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity, and transgression, and sin, and that will by no means clear the guilty; visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children, and upon the children's children, unto the third and to the fourth generation. And Moses made haste, and bowed his head toward the earth, and worshipped. And he said,

PRAYER—*v.* 9.

IF now I have found grace in thy sight, O Lord, let my Lord, I pray thee, go among us, (for it is a stiff-necked people,) and pardon our iniquity and our sin, and take us for thine inheritance.

ANSWER—ISA. lxiii. 8, 9.

So he was their Saviour.
In all their affliction he was afflicted,—and the angel of his presence saved them:
In his love and in his pity he redeemed them;
And he bare them, and carried them all the days of old.

PROMISE—DEUT. xxxiii. 26–29; ISA. xxxiii. 17.

There is none like unto the God of Jeshurun,
Who rideth upon the heaven in thy help,—and in his excellency on the sky.

The eternal God is thy refuge,—and underneath are the everlasting arms:
And he shall thrust out the enemy from before thee,—and shall say, Destroy them.
Israel then shall dwell in safety alone:
The fountain of Jacob shall be upon a land of corn and wine;
Also his heavens shall drop down dew.
Happy art thou, O Israel:—who is like unto thee, O people saved by the Lord,
The shield of thy help,—and who is the sword of thy excellency!
And thine enemies shall be found liars unto thee;
And thou shalt tread upon their high places.

Thine eyes shall see the King in his beauty;—they shall behold the land that is very far off.

## *At the Removing and Resting of the Ark.*

If God be for us, who can be against us?—*Rom.* viii. 31.

NUM. x. 35.

It came to pass, when the ark set forward, that Moses said,

PRAYER.

RISE up, Lord, and let thine enemies be scattered; and let them that hate thee flee before thee.

*v.* 36.

And when it rested, he said,

PRAYER.

RETURN, O Lord, unto the many thousands of Israel.

ANSWER—Ps. lxviii. 11, 12.

The Lord gave the word;—great was the company of those that published it.
Kings of armies did flee apace;—and she that tarried at home divided the spoil.

PROMISE—Ps. cxxi. 8.

The Lord shall preserve thy going out, and thy coming in,
From this time forth, and even for evermore.

## *When the People wept to eat Flesh.*

Now these things were our examples, to the intent we should not lust after evil things, as they also lusted.—1 *Cor.* x. 6.

He that soweth to his flesh, shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit, shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting.—*Gal.* vi. 8.

NUM. xi. 4, 10.

The mixed multitude that was among them fell a lusting: and the children of Israel also wept again, and said, Who shall give us flesh to eat? . . . . Then Moses heard the people weep throughout their families, every man in the door of his tent: and the anger of the Lord was kindled greatly; Moses also was displeased. And Moses said unto the Lord,

PRAYER—*v.* 11.

WHEREFORE hast thou afflicted thy servant? and wherefore have I not found favour in thy sight, that thou layest the burden of all this people upon me? Have I conceived all this people? have I begotten them, that thou shouldest say unto me, Carry

them in thy bosom (as a nursing father beareth the sucking child) unto the land which thou swarest unto their fathers? Whence should I have flesh to give unto all this people? for they weep unto me, saying, Give us flesh, that we may eat. I am not able to bear all this people alone, because it is too heavy for me. And if thou deal thus with me, kill me, I pray thee, out of hand, if I have found favour in thy sight; and let me not see my wretchedness.

ANSWER—*v.* 16, 17, 20.

And the Lord said unto Moses, Gather unto me seventy men of the elders of Israel, . . . . and I will take of the spirit which is upon thee, and will put it upon them; and they shall bear the burden of the people with thee, that thou bear it not thyself alone. And say thou unto the people, Sanctify yourselves against to-morrow, and ye shall eat flesh: . . . . Even a whole month, until it come out at your nostrils, and it be loathsome unto you: because that ye have despised the Lord which is among you, and have wept before him, saying, Why came we forth out of Egypt? And Moses said,

PRAYER—*v.* 21.

THE people, among whom I am, are six hundred thousand footmen; and thou hast said, I will give them flesh, that they may eat a whole month. Shall the flocks and the herds be slain for them, to suffice them? or shall all the fish of the sea be gathered together for them, to suffice them?

ANSWER—*v.* 23; Ps. cvi. 15.

And the Lord said unto Moses, Is the Lord's hand

waxed short? thou shalt see now whether my word shall come to pass unto thee or not.

And he gave them their request;—but sent leanness into their soul.

PROMISE—1 SAM. ii. 30; PS. cxix. 9.

Them that honour me I will honour, and they that despise me shall be lightly esteemed.

Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way?
By taking heed thereto according to thy word.

## *For the Healing of Miriam's Leprosy.*

Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth.—*Matt.* v. 5.

NUM. xii. 1, 9, 13.

Miriam and Aaron spake against Moses because of the Ethiopian woman whom he had married: for he had married an Ethiopian woman. And they said, Hath the Lord indeed spoken only by Moses? hath he not spoken also by us? And the Lord heard it. (Now the man Moses was very meek, above all the men which were upon the face of the earth.) . . . . And the anger of the Lord was kindled against them; and he departed. And the cloud departed from off the tabernacle; and, behold, Miriam became leprous, white as snow: And Aaron looked upon Miriam, and, behold, she was leprous. . . . . And Moses cried unto the Lord, saying,

PRAYER—*v.* 13.

HEAL her now, O God, I beseech thee.

ANSWER—*v.* 14, 15.

And the Lord said unto Moses, If her father had but spit in her face, should she not be ashamed seven days? let her be shut out from the camp seven days, and after that let her be received in again. And Miriam was shut out from the camp seven days: and the people journeyed not till Miriam was brought in again.

PROMISE—Ps. xxxvii. 5, 6.

Commit thy way unto the Lord;
Trust also in him, and he shall bring it to pass:
And he shall bring forth thy righteousness as the light,—and thy judgment as the noon-day.

## *When the People murmured at the Spies' Report.*

To whom sware he that they should not enter into his rest, but to them that believed not? So we see that they could not enter in because of unbelief.—*Heb.* iii. 18, 19.

Let us labour therefore to enter into that rest, lest any man fall after the same example of unbelief.—*Heb.* iv. 11.

NUM. xiv. 11.

And the Lord said unto Moses, How long will this people provoke me? and how long will it be ere they believe me, for all the signs which I have showed among them? I will smite them with the pestilence, and disinherit them, and will make of thee a greater nation and mightier than they. And Moses said unto the Lord,

PRAYER—*v.* 13.

THEN the Egyptians shall hear it, (for thou brought-est up this people in thy might from among them); and they will tell it to the inhabitants of this

land: for they have heard that thou, Lord, art among this people; that thou, Lord, art seen face to face; and that thy cloud standeth over them; and that thou goest before them, by day-time in a pillar of a cloud, and in a pillar of fire by night. Now, if thou shalt kill all this people as one man, then the nations, which have heard the fame of thee, will speak, saying, Because the Lord was not able to bring this people into the land which he sware unto them, therefore he hath slain them in the wilderness. And now, I beseech thee, let the power of my Lord be great, according as thou hast spoken, saying, The Lord is long-suffering, and of great mercy, forgiving iniquity and transgression, and by no means clearing the guilty; visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation. Pardon, I beseech thee, the iniquity of this people, according unto the greatness of thy mercy, and as thou hast forgiven this people from Egypt, even until now.

ANSWER—*v.* 20, 25.

And the Lord said, I have pardoned, according to thy word: But as truly as I live, all the earth shall be filled with the glory of the Lord. Because all those men which have seen my glory, and my miracles which I did in Egypt, and in the wilderness, have tempted me now these ten times, and have not hearkened to my voice; surely they shall not see the land which I sware unto their fathers, neither shall any of them that provoked me see it: but my servant Caleb, because he had another spirit with him, and hath followed me fully, him will I bring into the land whereinto he went; and his seed shall possess it. . . . To-morrow

turn you, and get you into the wilderness, by the way of the Red sea.

PROMISE—Isa. xlviii. 11.

For mine own sake, even for mine own sake, will I do it:
For how should my name be polluted?
And I will not give my glory unto another.

## *For rebellious Israel.*

**If any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous: and he is the propitiation for our sins; and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.—1 *John* ii. 1, 2.**

Deut. ix. 25.

I fell down before the Lord forty days and forty nights, as I fell down at the first; because the Lord had said he would destroy you. I prayed therefore unto the Lord, and said,

PRAYER—*v.* 26–29.

O LORD GOD, destroy not thy people, and thine inheritance, which thou hast redeemed through thy greatness, which thou hast brought forth out of Egypt with a mighty hand. Remember thy servants, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; look not unto the stubbornness of this people, nor to their wickedness, nor to their sin; lest the land whence thou broughtest us out say, Because the Lord was not able to bring them into the land which he promised them, and because he hated them, he hath brought them out to slay them in the wilderness. Yet they are thy people, and thine inher-

itance, which thou broughtest out by thy mighty power, and by thy stretched-out arm.

ANSWER—Ps. cvi. 23.

Therefore he said that he would destroy them,
Had not Moses his chosen stood before him in the breach,
To turn away his wrath, lest he should destroy them.

PROMISE—Isa. i. 18.

Come now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord:
Though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow;
Though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool.

## *On the Rebellion of Korah, Dathan, and Abiram.*

If the word spoken by angels was stedfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just recompence of reward; how shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation?—*Heb.* ii. 2, 3.

Num. xvi. 12.

Moses sent to call Dathan and Abiram, the sons of Eliab; which said, We will not come up: Is it a small thing that thou hast brought us up out of a land that floweth with milk and honey, to kill us in the wilderness, except thou make thyself altogether a prince over us? Moreover, thou hast not brought us into a land that floweth with milk and honey, or given us inheritance of fields and vineyards: wilt thou put out the eyes of these men? we will not come up. And Moses was very wroth, and said unto the Lord,

PRAYER—*v.* 15.

RESPECT not thou their offering: I have not taken one ass from them, neither have I hurt one of them.

ANSWER—*v.* 20.

And the Lord spake unto Moses and unto Aaron, saying, Separate yourselves from among this congregation, that I may consume them in a moment. And they fell upon their faces, and said,

PRAYER—*v.* 22.

O GOD, the God of the spirits of all flesh, shall one man sin, and wilt thou be wroth with all the congregation?

ANSWER—*v.* 32, 33.

And the earth opened her mouth, and swallowed . . . . all the men that appertained unto Korah, and all their goods. They, and all that appertained to them, went down alive into the pit, and the earth closed upon them: and they perished from among the congregation.

PROMISE—Ps. cxxv. 5.

As for such as turn aside unto their crooked ways,
The Lord shall lead them forth with the workers of iniquity:
But peace shall be upon Israel.

## *For a Successor.*

I am the good shepherd, and know my sheep, and am known of mine. As the Father knoweth me, even so know I the Father: and I lay down my life for the sheep.—*John* x. 14, 15.

NUM. xxvii. 12.

The Lord said unto Moses, Get thee up into this

mount Abarim, and see the land which I have given unto the children of Israel. And when thou hast seen it, thou also shalt be gathered unto thy people, as Aaron thy brother was gathered. For ye rebelled against my commandment in the desert of Zin, in the strife of the congregation, to sanctify me at the water before their eyes: that is the water of Meribah in Kadesh, in the wilderness of Zin. And Moses spake unto the Lord, saying,

PRAYER—*v.* 16.

LET the Lord, the God of the spirits of all flesh, set a man over the congregation, which may go out before them, and which may go in before them, and which may lead them out, and which may bring them in; that the congregation of the Lord be not as sheep which have no shepherd.

ANSWER—*v.* 18, 21.

And the Lord said unto Moses, Take thee Joshua the son of Nun, a man in whom is the spirit, and lay thine hand upon him; . . . . at his word shall they go out, and at his word they shall come in, both he, and all the children of Israel with him, even all the congregation.

PROMISE—JER. iii. 15.

I will give you pastors according to mine heart,
Which shall feed you with knowledge and understanding.

## *To enter the Promised Land.*

Give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall: for so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of *our* Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.—2 *Peter* i. 10, 11.

DEUT. iii. 23.

I besought the Lord at that time, saying,

PRAYER—*v.* 24.

O LORD GOD, thou hast begun to show thy servant thy greatness, and thy mighty hand: for what God is there in heaven or in earth that can do according to thy works, and according to thy might? I pray thee, let me go over and see the good land that is beyond Jordan, that goodly mountain, and Lebanon.

ANSWER—*v.* 26–28.

But the Lord was wroth with me for your sakes, and would not hear me: and the Lord said unto me, Let it suffice thee; speak no more unto me of this matter. Get thee up into the top of Pisgah, and lift up thine eyes westward, and northward, and southward, and eastward, and behold it with thine eyes: for thou shalt not go over this Jordan. But charge Joshua, and encourage him, and strengthen him: for he shall go over before this people, and he shall cause them to inherit the land which thou shalt see.

PROMISE—Ps. xxx. 5.

His anger endureth but a moment;—in his favour is life:
Weeping may endure for a night,—but joy cometh in the morning.

## *"A Prayer of Moses, the man of God."*

Our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory.—2 *Cor.* iv. 17.

He endured, as seeing him who is invsible.—Heb. xi. 27.

## Ps. xc.

LORD, thou hast been our dwelling-place in all generations.
Before the mountains were brought forth,—or ever thou hadst formed the earth and the world,
Even from everlasting to everlasting, thou art God.
Thou turnest man to destruction;—and sayest, Return, ye children of men.
For a thousand years in thy sight are but as yesterday when it is past,
And as a watch in the night.
Thou carriest them away as with a flood;—they are as a sleep:
In the morning they are like grass which groweth up.
In the morning it flourisheth, and groweth up;—in the evening it is cut down, and withereth.
For we are consumed by thine anger,—and by thy wrath are we troubled.
Thou hast set our iniquities before thee,—our secret sins in the light of thy countenance.
For all our days are passed away in thy wrath;—we spend our years as a tale that is told.
The days of our years are threescore years and ten;
And if by reason of strength they be fourscore years,
Yet is their strength labour and sorrow:—for it is soon cut off, and we fly away.
Who knoweth the power of thine anger?—even according to thy fear, so is thy wrath.
So teach us to number our days,—that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom.

℣. 13. Return, O Lord, how long?—and let it repent *thee* concerning thy servants.

O satisfy us early with thy mercy;—that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.
Make us glad according to the days wherein thou hast afflicted us,
And the years wherein we have seen evil.
Let thy work appear unto thy servants,—and thy glory unto their children.
And let the beauty of the Lord our God be upon us:
And establish thou the work of our hands upon us;
Yea, the work of our hands establish thou it.

PROMISE—ISA. xl. 30, 31.

Even the youths shall faint and be weary,—and the young men shall utterly fall:
But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength;
They shall mount up with wings as eagles;
They shall run, and not be weary;—and they shall walk, and not faint.

# JOSHUA.

## *After Israel's Defeat at Ai.*

**Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.—2 *Cor.* vii. 1.**

JOSH. vii. 4.

There went up thither of the people about three thousand men; and they fled before the men of Ai. And the men of Ai smote of them about thirty and six men: for they chased them from before the gate even unto Shebarim, and smote them in the going down; wherefore the hearts of the people melted, and became

as water. And Joshua rent his clothes, and fell to the earth upon his face before the ark of the Lord until the even-tide, he and the elders of Israel, and put dust upon their heads. And Joshua said,

PRAYER—*v.* 7.

ALAS, O Lord God, wherefore hast thou at all brought this people over Jordan, to deliver us into the hand of the Amorites, to destroy us? would to God we had been content, and dwelt on the other side Jordan! O Lord, what shall I say, when Israel turneth their backs before their enemies? For the Canaanites, and all the inhabitants of the land, shall hear of it, and shall environ us round, and cut off our name from the earth: and what wilt thou do unto thy great name?

ANSWER—*v.* 10, 13.

And the Lord said unto Joshua, . . . . Up, sanctify the people, and say, Sanctify yourselves against tomorrow; for thus saith the Lord God of Israel, There is an accursed thing in the midst of thee, O Israel: thou canst not stand before thine enemies, until ye take away the accursed thing from among you.

PROMISE—1 SAM. xii. 22.

The Lord will not forsake his people for his great name's sake: because it hath pleased the Lord to make you his people.

# JABEZ.

## *For Enlargement.*

**Bodily exercise profiteth little; but godliness is profitable unto all things, having promise of the life that now is, and of that which is to come. This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation. —1 *Tim.* iv. 8, 9.**

1 CHRON. iv. 10.

Jabez called on the God of Israel, saying,

PRAYER.

OH that thou wouldest bless me indeed, and enlarge my coast, and that thine hand might be with me, and that thou wouldest keep me from evil, that it may not grieve me!

ANSWER.

And God granted him that which he requested.

PROMISE—PROV. x. 22.

The blessing of the Lord, it maketh rich,—and he addeth no sorrow with it.

# ISRAEL.

## *On offering the Basket of First Fruits.*

**I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.—*Rom.* xii. 1.**

DEUT. xxvi. 4.

The priest shall take the basket out of thine hand, and set it down before the altar of the Lord thy God. And thou shalt speak and say before the Lord thy God,

PRAYER—*v.* 5.

A SYRIAN ready to perish was my father; and he went down into Egypt, and sojourned there with a few, and became there a nation, great, mighty, and populous: and the Egyptians evil-entreated us, and afflicted us, and laid upon us hard bondage: and when

we cried unto the Lord God of our fathers, the Lord heard our voice, and looked on our affliction, and our labour, and our oppression: and the Lord brought us forth out of Egypt with a mighty hand, and with an outstretched arm, and with great terribleness, and with signs, and with wonders: and he hath brought us into this place, and hath given us this land, even a land that floweth with milk and honey. And now, behold, I have brought the first-fruits of the land which thou, O Lord, hast given me.

*v.* 10, 11.

And thou shalt set it before the Lord thy God, and worship before the Lord thy God. And thou shalt rejoice in every good thing which the Lord thy God hath given unto thee, and unto thine house, thou, and the Levite, and the stranger that is among you.

PROMISE—PROV. iii. 9, 10.

Honour the Lord with thy substance,—and with the first-fruits of all thine increase:
So shall thy barns be filled with plenty,—and thy presses shall burst out with new wine.

## *On giving the Third Year's Tithes.*

Pure religion, and undefiled, before God and the Father, is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world.—*James* i. 27.

DEUT. xxvi. 12.

When thou hast made an end of tithing all the tithes of thine increase the third year, which is the year of

tithing, and hast given it unto the Levite, the stranger, the fatherless, and the widow, that they may eat within thy gates, and be filled; then thou shalt say before the Lord thy God,

PRAYER—*v.* 13-15.

I HAVE brought away the hallowed things out of mine house, and also have given them unto the Levite, and unto the stranger, to the fatherless, and to the widow, according to all thy commandments which thou hast commanded me: I have not transgressed thy commandments, neither have I forgotten them. I have not eaten thereof in my mourning, neither have I taken away ought thereof for any unclean use, nor given ought thereof for the dead: but I have hearkened to the voice of the Lord my God, and have done according to all that thou hast commanded me. Look down from thy holy habitation, from heaven, and bless thy people Israel, and the land which thou hast given us, as thou swarest unto our fathers, a land that floweth with milk and honey.

PROMISE—MAL. iii. 10.

Bring ye all the tithes into the store-house,—that there may be meat in mine house,
And prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts,
If I will not open you the windows of heaven,
And pour you out a blessing,—that there shall not be room enough to receive it.

## *When going against the Canaanites.*

**This is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith. Who is he that overcometh the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God?—1 *John* v. 4, 5.**

JUDGES i. 1.

After the death of Joshua, it came to pass, that the children of Israel asked the Lord, saying,

PRAYER.

WHO shall go up for us against the Canaanites first, to fight against them?

ANSWER—*v.* 2, 4.

And the Lord said, Judah shall go up: behold, I have delivered the land into his hand. . . . . And Judah went up; and the Lord delivered the Canaanites and the Perizzites into their hand.

PROMISE—Ps. xxxii. 8.

I will instruct thee, and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go:
I will guide thee with mine eye.

## *When going against Benjamin.*

Ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise.—*Heb.* x. 36.

JUDGES xx. 18.

The children of Israel arose, and went up to the house of God, and asked counsel of God, and said,

PRAYER.

WHICH of us shall go up first to the battle against the children of Benjamin?

ANSWER—*v.* 18, 21, 23.

And the Lord said, Judah shall go up first. And

the children of Israel rose up in the morning, and encamped against Gibeah. . . . . And the children of Benjamin came forth out of Gibeah, and destroyed down to the ground of the Israelites that day twenty and two thousand men. . . . . And the children of Israel went up and wept before the Lord until even, and asked counsel of the Lord, saying,

PRAYER—*v.* 23.

SHALL I go up again to battle against the children of Benjamin my brother?

ANSWER—*v.* 23, 28.

And the Lord said, Go up against him. And the children of Israel came near against the children of Benjamin the second day. And Benjamim went forth against them out of Gibeah the second day, and destroyed down to the ground of the children of Israel again eighteen thousand men; all these drew the sword. Then all the children of Israel, and all the people, went up, and came unto the house of God, and wept, and sat there before the Lord, and fasted that day until even, and offered burnt-offerings and peace-offerings before the Lord. And the children of Israel enquired of the Lord, . . . . saying,

PRAYER—*v.* 28.

SHALL I yet again go out to battle against the children of Benjamin my brother, or shall I cease?

ANSWER—*v.* 28, 35.

And the Lord said, Go up; for to-morrow I will deliver them into thine hand. . . . . And the Lord smote

Benjamin before Israel: and the children of Israel destroyed of the Benjamites that day twenty and five thousand and an hundred men: all these drew the sword.

PROMISE—Ps. xxxi. 24; Gen. xlix. 19.

Be of good courage, and he shall strengthen your heart,—all ye that hope in the Lord.

A troop shall overcome him:—but he shall overcome at the last.

## *Bewailing the Desolation of Benjamin.*

Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted. Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ.—*Gal.* vi. 1, 2.

Judges xxi. 2.

The people came to the house of God, and abode there till even before God, and lifted up their voices, and wept sore; and said,

PRAYER—*v.* 3.

O LORD GOD of Israel, why is this come to pass in Israel, that there should be to-day one tribe lacking in Israel?

ANSWER—*v.* 23.

And the children of Benjamin . . . . went and returned unto their inheritance, and repaired the cities, and dwelt in them.

PROMISE—ISA. lvii. 18.

I have seen his ways, and will heal him;
I will lead him also, and restore comforts unto him, and to his mourners.

## *Under the Oppression of their Enemies.*

Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up.—*James* iv. 10.

JUDGES x. 9.

Israel was sore distressed. And the children of Israel cried unto the Lord, saying,

PRAYER—*v.* 10.

WE have sinned against thee, both because we have forsaken our God, and also served Baalim.

ANSWER—*v.* 11.

And the Lord said unto the children of Israel, Did not I deliver you from the Egyptians, and from the Amorites, from the children of Ammon, and from the Philistines? The Zidonians also, and the Amalekites, and the Maonites, did oppress you; and ye cried to me, and I delivered you out of their hand. Yet ye have forsaken me, and served other gods: wherefore I will deliver you no more. Go and cry unto the gods which ye have chosen; let them deliver you in the time of your tribulation. And the children of Israel said unto the Lord,

PRAYER—*v.* 15.

WE have sinned: do thou unto us whatsoever seemeth good unto thee; deliver us only, we pray thee, this day.

ANSWER—*v.* 16; 1 SAM. xii. 11.

And they put away the strange gods from among them, and served the Lord: and his soul was grieved for the misery of Israel.

And the Lord sent Jerubbaal, and Bedan, and Jephthah, and Samuel, and delivered you out of the hand of your enemies on every side, and ye dwelled safe.

PROMISE—LAM. iii. 31–33.

The Lord will not cast off for ever:
But though he cause grief, yet will he have compassion according to the multitude of his mercies.
For he doth not afflict willingly, nor grieve the children of men.

# GIDEON.

## *When called by the Lord to deliver Israel.*

Gideon . . . . who through faith subdued kingdoms, wrought righteousness, obtained promises, . . . . out of weakness . . made strong, waxed valiant in fight, turned to flight the armies of the aliens.—*Heb.* xi. 32–34.

He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son.—*Rev.* xxi. 7.

JUDGES vi. 11.

There came an angel of the Lord, and sat under an oak which was in Ophrah, that pertained unto Joash the Abi-ezrite: and his son Gideon thrashed wheat by the wine-press, to hide it from the Midianites. And the angel of the Lord appeared unto him, and said unto

him, The Lord is with thee, thou mighty man of valour. And Gideon said unto him,

PRAYER—*v.* 13.

OH my Lord, if the Lord be with us, why then is all this befallen us? and where be all his miracles which our fathers told us of, saying, Did not the Lord bring us up from Egypt? but now the Lord hath forsaken us, and delivered us into the hands of the Midianites.

ANSWER—*v.* 14.

And the Lord looked upon him, and said, Go in this thy might, and thou shalt save Israel from the hand of the Midianites: have not I sent thee? And he said unto him,

PRAYER—*v.* 15.

OH my Lord, wherewith shall I save Israel? behold, my family is poor in Manasseh, and I am the least in my father's house.

ANSWER—*v.* 16.

And the Lord said unto him, Surely I will be with thee, and thou shalt smite the Midianites as one man. And he said unto him,

PRAYER—*v.* 17.

IF now I have found grace in thy sight, then show me a sign that thou talkest with me. Depart not hence, I pray thee, until I come unto thee, and bring forth my present, and set it before thee.

ANSWER—*v.* 18, 22.

And he said, I will tarry until thou come again. . . . . And when Gideon perceived that he was an angel of the Lord, Gideon said,

PRAYER—*v.* 22.

ALAS, O Lord God! for because I have seen an angel of the Lord face to face.

ANSWER—*v.* 23, 36.

And the Lord said unto him, Peace be unto thee; fear not: thou shalt not die. Then Gideon built an altar there unto the Lord, and called it Jehovah-shalom:*

. . . . .

And Gideon said unto God,

PRAYER—*v.* 36.

IF thou wilt save Israel by mine hand, as thou hast said, behold, I will put a fleece of wool in the floor; and if the dew be on the fleece only, and it be dry upon all the earth beside, then shall I know that thou wilt save Israel by mine hand, as thou hast said.

ANSWER—*v.* 38.

And it was so: for he rose up early on the morrow, and thrust the fleece together, and wringed the dew out of the fleece, a bowl full of water. And Gideon said unto God,

PRAYER—*v.* 39.

LET not thine anger be hot against me, and I will speak but this once: let me prove, I pray thee, but this once with the fleece; let it now be dry only upon the fleece, and upon all the ground let there be dew.

ANSWER—*v.* 40; chap. vii. 12, 19, 22; viii. 4.

And God did so that night; for it was dry upon the fleece only, and there was dew on all the ground.

. . . . .

* *Margin*, The LORD *send* peace.

And the Midianites, and the Amelekites, and all the children of the east, lay along in the valley like grasshoppers for multitude; and their camels were without number, as the sand by the sea-side for multitude. . . . . So Gideon, and the hundred men that were with him, came unto the outside of the camp in the beginning of the middle watch; . . . . and the three hundred blew the trumpets, and the Lord set every man's sword against his fellow, even throughout all the host: and the host fled to Beth-shittah in Zererath, and to the border of Abel-meholah, unto Tabbath. And the men of Israel gathered themselves together out of Naphtali, and out of Asher, and out of all Manasseh, and pursued after the Midianites. . . . . And Gideon came to Jordan, and passed over, he, and the three hundred men that were with him, faint, yet pursuing.

PROMISE—Isa. xl. 27-29; Ps. xxvii. 14.

Why sayest thou, O Jacob, and speakest, O Israel,
My way is hid from the Lord,—and my judgment is passed over from my God?
Hast thou not known? hast thou not heard,
That the everlasting God, the Lord,—the Creator of the ends of the earth,
Fainteth not, neither is weary?—there is no searching of his understanding.
He giveth power to the faint;—and to them that have no might he increaseth strength.

Wait on the Lord;
Be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart:—wait, I say, on the Lord.

# HANNAH.

## *For a Man-child—Thanksgiving.*

**Whosoever shall do the will of my Father which is in heaven, the same is my brother, and sister, and mother.—*Matt.* xii. 50.**

1 SAM. i. 2, 10.

Hannah had no children. . . . . And she was in bitterness of soul, and prayed unto the Lord, and wept sore. And she vowed a vow, and said,

PRAYER—*v.* 11.

O LORD of hosts, if thou wilt indeed look on the affliction of thine handmaid, and remember me, and not forget thine handmaid, but wilt give unto thine handmaid a man-child, then I will give him unto the Lord all the days of his life, and there shall no razor come upon his head.

ANSWER—*v.* 19; chap. ii. 1.

And the Lord remembered her.

. . . . . .

And Hannah prayed, and said,

PRAYER—*v.* 1–10.

MY heart rejoiceth in the Lord;—mine horn is exalted in the Lord;
My mouth is enlarged over mine enemies;—because I rejoice in thy salvation.
There is none holy as the Lord:—for there is none beside thee;
*Neither is there* any rock like our God.

Talk no more so exceeding proudly;—let not arrogancy come out of your mouth:
For the Lord is a God of knowledge,—and by him actions are weighed.
The bows of the mighty men are broken,
And they that stumbled are girded with strength.
They that were full have hired out themselves for bread;
And they that were hungry ceased:
So that the barren hath born seven;—and she that hath many children is waxed feeble.
The Lord killeth, and maketh alive:—he bringeth down to the grave, and bringeth up.
The Lord maketh poor, and maketh rich:—he bringeth low, and lifteth up.
He raiseth up the poor out of the dust,—and lifteth up the beggar from the dunghill,
To set them among princes,—and to make them inherit the throne of glory:
For the pillars of the earth are the Lord's,—and he hath set the world upon them.
He will keep the feet of his saints,—and the wicked shall be silent in darkness;
For by strength shall no man prevail.
The adversaries of the Lord shall be broken to pieces;
Out of heaven shall he thunder upon them:
The Lord shall judge the ends of the earth;
And he shall give strength unto his king,—and exalt the horn of his anointed.

PROMISE—Ps. cxiii. 5, 9.

Who is like unto the Lord our God,—who dwelleth on high,

Who humbleth himself to behold the things that are in heaven, and in the earth! . . . . . .
He maketh the barren woman to keep house,—and to be a joyful mother of children.
Praise ye the Lord.

# MANOAH.

## *Concerning the Promised Child.*

**If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children; how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?—*Luke* xi. 13.**

JUDGES xiii. 8.

Manoah entreated the Lord, and said,

PRAYER.

O MY Lord, let the man of God which thou didst send come again unto us, and teach us what we shall do unto the child that shall be born.

ANSWER—*v.* 9.

And God hearkened to the voice of Manoah; and the angel of God came again.

PROMISE—PROV. ii. 6, 7.

The Lord giveth wisdom:—out of his mouth cometh knowledge and understanding.
He layeth up sound wisdom for the righteous:—he is a buckler to them that walk uprightly.

# SAMSON.

## *When athirst after smiting the Philistines.*

We have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us.—2 *Cor.* iv. 7.

JUDGES xv. 14, 18.

When he came unto Lehi, the Philistines shouted against him: and the Spirit of the Lord came mightily upon him; and the cords that were upon his arms became as flax that was burned with fire, and his bands loosed from off his hands. And he found a new jaw-bone of an ass, and put forth his hand and took it, and slew a thousand men therewith. . . . . And he was sore athirst, and called on the Lord, and said,

PRAYER—*v.* 18.

THOU hast given this great deliverance into the hand of thy servant: and now shall I die for thirst, and fall into the hand of the uncircumcised?

ANSWER—*v.* 19.

But God clave an hollow place that was in the jaw,* and there came water thereout; and when he had drunk, his spirit came again, and he revived.

PROMISE—ISA. xli. 17.

When the poor and needy seek water, and there is none,—and their tongue faileth for thirst,

* *Margin*, Lehi.

I the Lord will hear them,—I the God of Israel will not forsake them.

## *For the Restoration of his Strength.*

**Persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed.—2 *Cor.* iv. 9.**

JUDGES xvi. 21, 25, 28.

The Philistines took him, and put out his eyes, and brought him down to Gaza, and bound him with fetters of brass; and he did grind in the prison-house. . . . . And it came to pass, when their hearts were merry, that they said, Call for Samson, that he may make us sport. And they called for Samson out of the prison-house; and he made them sport: and they set him between the pillars. . . . . And Samson called unto the Lord, and said,

PRAYER—*v.* 28.

O LORD GOD, remember me, I pray thee, and strengthen me, I pray thee, only this once, O God, that I may be at once avenged of the Philistines for my two eyes.

ANSWER—*v.* 29, 30.

And Samson took hold of the two middle pillars upon which the house stood, and on which it was borne up, of the one with his right hand, and of the other with his left. And Samson said, Let me die with the Philistines. And he bowed himself with all his might; and the house fell upon the lords, and upon all the people that were therein: so the dead which

he slew at his death were more than they which he slew in his life.

PROMISE—Amos v. 8, 9.

The Lord is his name;
That strengtheneth the spoiled against the strong,
So that the spoiled shall come against the fortress.

# DAVID.

## *Psalms entitled "A Prayer of David."*

These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.—*John* xvi. 33.

In all these things we are more than conquerors, through him that loved us.—*Rom.* viii. 37.

### Ps. xvii.

*A Prayer of David.*

HEAR the right, O Lord,—attend unto my cry;
Give ear unto my prayer, that goeth not out of feigned lips.
Let my sentence come forth from thy presence;
Let thine eyes behold the things that are equal.
Thou hast proved mine heart;—thou hast visited me in the night;
Thou hast tried me, and shalt find nothing:
I am purposed that my mouth shall not transgress.
Concerning the works of men,
By the word of thy lips I have kept me from the paths of the destroyer.
Hold up my goings in thy paths,—that my footsteps slip not.

v. 6. I have called upon thee; for thou wilt hear me, O God:
Incline thine ear unto me, and hear my speech.
Show thy marvellous loving-kindness,—O thou that savest by thy right hand
Them which put their trust in thee—from those that rise up against them.
Keep me as the apple of the eye;—hide me under the shadow of thy wings,
From the wicked that oppress me,—from my deadly enemies, who compass me about.
They are inclosed in their own fat:—with their mouth they speak proudly.
They have now compassed us in our steps;
They have set their eyes bowing down to the earth;
Like as a lion that is greedy of his prey,
And as it were a young lion lurking in secret places.
Arise, O Lord; disappoint him, cast him down:
Deliver my soul from the wicked, which is thy sword:*
From men which are thy hand,† O Lord,
From men of the world, which have their portion in this life,
And whose belly thou fillest with thy hid treasure:
They are full of children, and leave the rest of their substance to their babes.
As for me, I will behold thy face in righteousness:
I shall be satisfied, when I awake, with thy likeness.

Ps. lxxxvi.

*A Prayer of David.*

BOW down thine ear, O Lord, hear me;—for I am poor and needy.

* *Margin*, By thy sword. † *Margin*, By thy hand.

Preserve my soul, for I am holy:*
O thou my God, save thy servant that trusteth in thee.
Be merciful unto me, O Lord:—for I cry unto thee daily.
Rejoice the soul of thy servant:—for unto thee, O Lord, do I lift up my soul.
For thou, Lord, art good, and ready to forgive;
And plenteous in mercy unto all them that call upon thee.
Give ear, O Lord, unto my prayer;—and attend to the voice of my supplications.
In the day of my trouble I will call upon thee:—for thou wilt answer me.

v. 8. Among the gods there is none like unto thee, O Lord;
Neither are there any works like unto thy works.
All nations whom thou hast made shall come and worship before thee, O Lord;
And shall glorify thy name.
For thou art great, and doest wondrous things:—thou art God alone.
Teach me thy way, O Lord;—I will walk in thy truth:
Unite my heart to fear thy name.
I will praise thee, O Lord my God, with all my heart;
And I will glorify thy name for evermore.
For great is thy mercy toward me;—and thou hast delivered my soul from the lowest hell.

v. 14. O God, the proud are risen against me,

* *Margin*, One whom thou favourest.

And the assemblies of violent men have sought after
my soul,
And have not set thee before them.
But thou, O Lord, art a God full of compassion, and
gracious,
Long-suffering, and plentous in mercy and truth.
O turn unto me, and have mercy upon me:
Give thy strength unto thy servant,—and save the son
of thine handmaid.
Show me a token for good;—that they which hate me
may see it, and be ashamed;
Because thou, Lord, hast holpen me, and comforted
me.

Ps. cxlii.

*A Prayer when he was in the Cave.*

I CRIED unto the Lord with my voice:
With my voice unto the Lord did I make my sup-
plication.
I poured out my complaint before him;—I showed be-
fore him my trouble.
When my spirit was overwhelmed within me,—then
thou knowest my path:
In the way wherein I walked—have they privily laid a
snare for me.
I looked on my right hand, and beheld,—but there was
no man that would know me:
Refuge failed me;—no man cared for my soul.
I cried unto thee, O Lord:
I said, Thou art my refuge and my portion in the land
of the living.
Attend unto my cry; for I am brought very low:
Deliver me from my prosecutors;—for they are stronger
than I.

Bring my soul out of prison,—that I may praise thy name:
The righteous shall compass me about;—for thou shalt deal bountifully with me.

PROMISE—Ps. lxxi. 20, 21; Isa. xli. 10; xliii. 2.

Thou, which hast showed me great and sore troubles, shalt quicken me again,
And shalt bring me up again from the depths of the earth.
Thou shalt increase my greatness,—and comfort me on every side.

Fear thou not; for I am with thee:—be not dismayed; for I am thy God:
I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee;
Yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.

When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee;
And through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee:
When thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burnt;
Neither shall the flame kindle upon thee.

## *Enquiring of the Lord.*

If any man will do his will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God.—*John* vii. 17.

Ye have an unction from the Holy One, and ye know all things. —1 *John* ii. 20.

1 Sam. xxiii. 1.

They told David, saying, Behold, the Philistines

fight against Keilah, and they rob the thrashing-floors. Therefore David enquired of the Lord, saying,

PRAYER—*v.* 2.

SHALL I go and smite these Philistines?

ANSWER—*v.* 2, 9.

And the Lord said unto David, Go and smite the Philistines, and save Keilah.

. . . . .

And David knew that Saul secretly practised mischief against him; and he said to Abiathar the priest, Bring hither the ephod. Then said David,

PRAYER—*v.* 10.

O LORD GOD of Israel, thy servant hath certainly heard that Saul seeketh to come to Keilah, to destroy the city for my sake. Will the men of Keilah deliver me up into his hand? will Saul come down, as thy servant hath heard? O Lord God of Israel, I beseech thee, tell thy servant.

ANSWER—*v.* 11.

And the Lord said, He will come down. Then said David,

PRAYER—*v.* 12.

WILL the men of Keilah deliver me and my men into the hand of Saul?

ANSWER—*v.* 12, 13.

And the Lord said, They will deliver thee up. Then David and his men, which were about six hundred, arose and departed out of Keilah.

1 SAM. xxx. 1, 8.

It came to pass, when David and his men were come to Ziklag on the third day, that the Amalekites had invaded the south, and Ziklag, and smitten Ziklag, and burnt it with fire; . . . . And David enquired at the Lord, saying,

PRAYER—*v.* 8.

SHALL I pursue after this troop? Shall I overtake them?

ANSWER.

And he answered him, Pursue; for thou shalt surely overtake them, and without fail recover all.

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2 SAM. ii. 1.

David enquired of the Lord, saying,

PRAYER.

SHALL I go up into any of the cities of Judah?

ANSWER.

And the Lord said unto him, Go up. And David said,

PRAYER.

WHITHER shall I go up?

ANSWER—*v.* 1–4.

And he said, Unto Hebron. So David went up thither, . . . . and there they anointed David king over the house of Judah.

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2 SAM. v. 19.

David enquired of the Lord, saying,

PRAYER.

SHALL I go up to the Philistines? wilt thou deliver them into mine hand?

ANSWER.

And the Lord said unto David, Go up; for I will doubtless deliver the Philistines into thine hand.

PROMISE—Ps. xxxvii. 34; Prov. iii. 5, 6.

Wait on the Lord, and keep his way,—and he shall exalt thee to inherit the land:
When the wicked are cut off, thou shalt see it.

Trust in the Lord with all thine heart;—and lean not unto thine own understanding.
In all thy ways acknowledge him,—and he shall direct thy paths.

## *On receiving God's Promise.*

We declare unto you glad tidings, how that the promise which was made unto the fathers, God hath fulfilled the same unto us their children, in that he hath raised up Jesus again; as it is also written in the second psalm, Thou art my Son, this day have I begotten thee.—*Acts* xiii. 32, 33.

1 CHRON. xvii. 16.

David the king came and sat before the Lord, and said,

PRAYER—*v.* 16–27.

WHO am I, O Lord God, and what is mine house, that thou hast brought me hitherto? And yet this was a small thing in thine eyes, O God; for thou hast also spoken of thy servant's house for a great while *to come,* and hast regarded me according to the estate

of a man of high degree, O Lord God. What can David speak more to thee for the honour of thy servant? for thou knowest thy servant. O Lord, for thy servant's sake, and according to thine own heart, hast thou done all this greatness, in making known all these great things. O Lord, there is none like thee, neither is there any God besides thee, according to all that we have heard with our ears. And what one nation in the earth is like thy people Israel, whom God went to redeem to be his own people, to make thee a name of greatness and terribleness, by driving out nations from before thy people, whom thou hast redeemed out of Egypt? For thy people Israel didst thou make thine own people for ever; and thou, Lord, becamest their God. Therefore now, Lord, let the thing that thou hast spoken concerning thy servant, and concerning his house, be established for ever, and do as thou hast said. Let it even be established, that thy name may be magnified for ever, saying, The Lord of hosts is the God of Israel, even a God to Israel; and let the house of David thy servant be established before thee. For thou, O my God, hast told thy servant that thou wilt build him an house: therefore thy servant hath found in his heart to pray before thee. And now, Lord, thou art God, and hast promised this goodness unto thy servant: now therefore let it please thee to bless the house of thy servant, that it may be before thee for ever: for thou blessest, O Lord, and it shall be blessed for ever.

ANSWER—Acts xiii. 23.

Of this man's seed hath God, according to his promise, raised unto Israel a Saviour, Jesus.

PROMISE—Ps. cxxv. 1, 2; Isa. lv. 3.

They that trust in the Lord shall be as mount Zion,
Which cannot be removed, but abideth for ever.
As the mountains are round about Jerusalem,
So the Lord is round about his people from henceforth, even for ever.

Incline your ear, and come unto me:—hear, and your soul shall live;
And I will make an everlasting covenant with you,—even the sure mercies of David.

## *Concerning the Counsel of Ahithophel.*

We know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.—*Rom.* viii. 28.

2 Sam. xv. 31.

One told David, saying, Ahithophel is among the conspirators with Absalom. And David said,

PRAYER.

O LORD, I pray thee, turn the counsel of Ahithophel into foolishness.

ANSWER—Chap. xvii. 14.

And Absalom and all the men of Israel said, The counsel of Hushai the Archite is better than the counsel of Ahithophel: for the Lord had appointed to defeat the good counsel of Ahithophel, to the intent that the Lord might bring evil upon Absalom.

PROMISE—Ps. xxxiii. 10, 11.

The Lord bringeth the counsel of the heathen to nought:

He maketh the devices of the people of none effect.
The counsel of the Lord standeth for ever,—the thoughts of his heart to all generations.

## *After Numbering the People.*

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.—1 *John* i. 9.

1 CHRON. xxi. 8.

David said unto God,

PRAYER—*v.* 8, 17.

I HAVE sinned greatly, because I have done this thing: but now, I beseech thee, do away the iniquity of thy servant; for I have done very foolishly.

. . . . . .

Is it not I that commanded the people to be numbered? even I it is that have sinned, and done evil indeed; but as for these sheep, what have they done? Let thine hand, I pray thee, O Lord my God, be on me, and on my father's house; but not on thy people, that they should be plagued.

ANSWER—2 SAM. xxiv. 25.

So the Lord was entreated for the land, and the plague was stayed from Israel.

PROMISE—HOS. vi. 1.

Come, and let us return unto the Lord:
For he hath torn,—and he will heal us;—he hath smitten,—and he will bind us up.

## *At the Willing Offerings for the Building of the Temple.*

**God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all-sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work: . . . . being enriched in every thing to all bountifulness, which causeth through us thanksgiving to God.—2 *Cor.* ix. 8, 11.**

1 CHRON. xxix. 9.

The people rejoiced, for that they offered willingly, because with perfect heart they offered willingly to the Lord: and David the king also rejoiced with great joy. Wherefore David blessed the Lord before all the congregation: and David said,

PRAYER—*v.* 10.

BLESSED be thou, Lord God of Israel our father, for ever and ever. Thine, O Lord, is the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the victory, and the majesty: for all that is in the heaven and in the earth is thine; thine is the kingdom, O Lord, and thou art exalted as head above all. Both riches and honour come of thee, and thou reignest over all; and in thine hand is power and might; and in thine hand it is to make great, and to give strength unto all. Now therefore, our God, we thank thee, and praise thy glorious name. But who am I, and what is my people, that we should be able to offer so willingly after this sort? for all things come of thee, and of thine own have we given thee. For we are strangers before thee, and sojourners, as were all our fathers: our days on the earth are as a shadow, and there is none abiding. O Lord our God, all this store that we have prepared to build thee an

house for thine holy name cometh of thine hand, and is all thine own. I know also, my God, that thou triest the heart, and hast pleasure in uprightness. As for me, in the uprightness of mine heart I have willingly offered all these things: and now have I seen with joy thy people, which are present here, to offer willingly unto thee. O Lord God of Abraham, Isaac, and of Israel, our fathers, keep this for ever in the imagination of the thoughts of the heart of thy people, and prepare their heart unto thee: and give unto Solomon my son a perfect heart, to keep thy commandments, thy testimonies, and thy statutes, and to do all these things, and to build the palace, for the which I have made provision.

ANSWER—*v.* 20, 22, 25.

And David said to all the congregation, Now bless the Lord your God. And all the congregation blessed the Lord God of their fathers, and bowed down their heads, and worshipped the Lord. . . . . And did eat and drink before the Lord on that day with great gladness: and they made Solomon the son of David king the second time, and anointed him unto the Lord to be the chief governor. . . . . And the Lord magnified Solomon exceedingly in the sight of all Israel, and bestowed upon him such royal majesty as had not been on any king before him in Israel.

PROMISE—Ps. cx. 3.

Thy people shall be willing in the day of thy power,
In the beauties of holiness from the womb of the morning:
Thou hast the dew of thy youth.

# THE AFFLICTED.

## *Pouring out his Complaint before the Lord.*

Blessed are ye that weep now: for ye shall laugh.—*Luke* vi. 21.

Ye shall weep and lament, but the world shall rejoice; and ye shall be sorrowful, but your sorrow shall be turned into joy.—*John* xvi. 20.

Ps. cii.

*A Prayer of the Afflicted, when he is overwhelmed, and poureth out his complaint before the Lord.*

HEAR my prayer, O Lord,—and let my cry come unto thee.
Hide not thy face from me in the day when I am in trouble;
Incline thine ear unto me; in the day when I call answer me speedily.

v. 3. For my days are consumed like smoke,—and my bones are burned as an hearth.
My heart is smitten and withered like grass;—so that I forget to eat my bread.
By reason of the voice of my groaning—my bones cleave to my skin.
I am like a pelican of the wilderness:—I am like an owl of the desert.
I watch, and am as a sparrow alone upon the house-top.
Mine enemies reproach me all the day;
And they that are mad against me are sworn against me.

For I have eaten ashes like bread,—and mingled my drink with weeping,
Because of thine indignation and thy wrath:—for thou hast lifted me up, and cast me down.

v. 11. My days are like a shadow that declineth;—and I am withered like grass.
But thou, O Lord, shalt endure for ever;—and thy remembrance unto all generations.
Thou shalt arise, and have mercy upon Zion:
For the time to favour her, yea, the set time, is come.
For thy servants take pleasure in her stones,—and favour the dust thereof.
So the heathen shall fear the name of the Lord,—and all the kings of the earth thy glory.

v. 16. When the Lord shall build up Zion,—he shall appear in his glory.
He will regard the prayer of the destitute,—and not despise their prayer.
This shall be written for the generation to come:
And the people which shall be created shall praise the Lord.
For he hath looked down from the height of his sanctuary;
From heaven did the Lord behold the earth;
To hear the groaning of the prisoner;—to loose those that are appointed to death;
To declare the name of the Lord in Zion,—and his praise in Jerusalem;
When the people are gathered together,—and the kingdoms, to serve the Lord.

v. 23. He weakened my strength in the way,—he shortened my days.

I said, O my God, take me not away in the midst of my days:
Thy years are throughout all generations.
Of old hast thou laid the foundation of the earth;—and the heavens are the work of thy hands.
They shall perish, but thou shalt endure;—yea, all of them shall wax old like a garment:
As a vesture shalt thou change them, and they shall be changed:
But thou art the same,—and thy years shall have no end.
The children of thy servants shall continue,—and their seed shall be established before thee.

PROMISE—Isa. lvii. 15; Zech. ii. 8.

For thus saith the high and lofty One that inhabiteth eternity,—whose name is Holy;
I dwell in the high and holy place,
With him also that is of a contrite and humble spirit,
To revive the spirit of the humble,—and to revive the heart of the contrite ones.

He that toucheth you toucheth the apple of his eye.

# SOLOMON.

## *For an Understanding Heart.*

If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him. But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering.—*James* i. 5, 6.

1 KINGS iii. 5.

In Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, Ask what I shall give thee. And Solomon said,

PRAYER—*v.* 6.

THOU hast showed unto thy servant David my father great mercy, according as he walked before thee in truth, and in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart with thee; and thou hast kept for him this great kindness, that thou hast given him a son to sit on his throne, as it is this day. And now, O Lord my God, thou has made thy servant king instead of David my father; and I am but a little child: I know not how to go out or come in. And thy servant is in the midst of thy people which thou hast chosen, a great people, that cannot be numbered nor counted for multitude. Give therefore thy servant an understanding heart to judge thy people, that I may discern between good and bad: for who is able to judge this thy so great a people?

ANSWER—*v.* 10–14; chap. iv. 29.

And the speech pleased the Lord, that Solomon had asked this thing. And God said unto him, Because thou hast asked this thing, and hast not asked for thyself long life; neither hast asked riches for thyself, nor hast asked the life of thine enemies; but hast asked for thyself understanding to discern judgment; behold, I have done according to thy words: lo, I have given thee a wise and an understanding heart; so that there was none like thee before thee, neither after thee shall any arise like unto thee. And I have also given thee that which thou hast not asked, both riches and honour:

so that there shall not be any among the kings like unto thee all thy days. And if thou wilt walk in my ways, to keep my statutes and my commandments, as thy father David did walk, then I will lengthen thy days. . . . . And God gave Solomon wisdom and understanding exceeding much, and largeness of heart, even as the sand that is on the sea-shore.

PROMISE—Prov. ix. 10, 11.

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom;
And the knowledge of the Holy is understanding:
For by me thy days shall be multiplied,—and the years
of thy life shall be increased.

## *At the Dedication of the Temple.*

The hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him.—*John* iv. 23.

Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.—1 *Cor.* vi. 19, 20.

1 KINGS viii. 22.

Solomon stood before the altar of the Lord, in the presence of all the congregation of Israel, and spread forth his hands toward heaven: and he said,

PRAYER—*v.* 23–53; 2 Chron. vi. 41, 42.

LORD GOD of Israel, there is no God like thee, in heaven above, or on earth beneath, who keepest covenant and mercy with thy servants that walk before thee with all their heart; who hast kept with thy ser-

vant David my father that thou promisest him: thou spakest also with thy mouth, and hast fulfilled it with thine hand, as it is this day. Therefore now, Lord God of Israel, keep with thy servant David my father that thou promisedst him, saying, There shall not fail thee a man in my sight to sit on the throne of Israel; so that thy children take heed to their way, that they walk before me as thou hast walked before me. And now, O God of Israel, let thy word, I pray thee, be verified, which thou spakest unto thy servant David my father.

v. 27. But will God indeed dwell on the earth? Behold, the heaven, and heaven of heavens, cannot contain thee; how much less this house that I have builded! Yet have thou respect unto the prayer of thy servant, and to his supplication, O Lord my God, to hearken unto the cry and to the prayer which thy servant prayeth before thee to-day; that thine eyes may be open toward this house night and day, even toward the place of which thou hast said, My name shall be there; that thou mayest hearken unto the prayer which thy servant shall make toward this place. And hearken thou to the supplication of thy servant, and of thy people Israel, when they shall pray toward this place: and hear thou in heaven thy dwelling-place; and when thou hearest, forgive.

v. 31. If any man trespass against his neighbour, and an oath be laid upon him to cause him to swear, and the oath come before thine altar in this house: then hear thou in heaven, and do, and judge thy servants, condemning the wicked, to bring his way upon his head; and justifying the righteous, to give him according to his righteousness.

*v.* 33. When thy people Israel be smitten down before the enemy, because they have sinned against thee, and shall turn again to thee, and confess thy name, and pray, and make supplication unto thee in this house: then hear thou in heaven, and forgive the sin of thy people Israel, and bring them again unto the land which thou gavest unto their fathers.

*v.* 35. When heaven is shut up, and there is no rain, because they have sinned against thee; if they pray toward this place, and confess thy name, and turn from their sin, when thou afflictest them: then hear thou in heaven, and forgive the sin of thy servants, and of thy people Israel, that thou teach them the good way wherein they should walk, and give rain upon thy land, which thou hast given to thy people for an inheritance.

*v.* 37. If there be in the land famine, if there be pestilence, blasting, mildew, locust, or if there be caterpillar; if their enemy besiege them in the land of their cities; whatsoever plague, whatsoever sickness there be; what prayer and supplication soever be made by any man, or by all thy people Israel, which shall know every man the plague of his own heart, and spread forth his hands toward this house: then hear thou in heaven thy dwelling-place, and forgive, and do, and give to every man according to his ways, whose heart thou knowest; (for thou, even thou only, knowest the hearts of all the children of men:) that they may fear thee all the days that they live in the land which thou gavest unto our fathers.

*v.* 41. Moreover, concerning a stranger, that is not of thy people Israel, but cometh out of a far country for thy name's sake; (for they shall hear of thy great name,

and of thy strong hand, and of thy stretched-out arm;) when he shall come and pray toward this house: hear thou in heaven thy dwelling-place, and do according to all that the stranger calleth to thee for; that all people of the earth may know thy name, to fear thee, as do thy people Israel; and that they may know that this house, which I have builded, is called by thy name.

v. 44. If thy people go out to battle against their enemy, whithersoever thou shalt send them, and shall pray unto the Lord toward the city which thou hast chosen, and toward the house that I have built for thy name: then hear thou in heaven their prayer and their supplication, and maintain their cause.

v. 46. If they sin against thee, (for there is no man that sinneth not,) and thou be angry with them, and deliver them to the enemy, so that they carry them away captives unto the land of the enemy, far or near; yet if they shall bethink themselves in the land whither they were carried captives, and repent, and make supplication unto thee in the land of them that carried them captives, saying, We have sinned, and have done perversely, we have committed wickedness; and so return unto thee with all their heart, and with all their soul, in the land of their enemies which led them away captive, and pray unto thee toward their land which thou gavest unto their fathers, the city which thou hast chosen, and the house which I have built for thy name: then hear thou their prayer and their supplication in heaven thy dwelling-place, and maintain their cause, and forgive thy people that have sinned against thee, and all their transgressions wherein they have transgressed against thee, and give them compassion before them who carried them captive, that they may have compassion on

them: for they be thy people, and thine inheritance, which thou broughtest forth out of Egypt, from the midst of the furnace of iron: that thine eyes may be open unto the supplication of thy servant, and unto the supplication of thy people Israel, to hearken unto them in all that they call for unto thee. For thou didst separate them from among all the people of the earth, to be thine inheritance, as thou spakest by the hand of Moses thy servant, when thou broughtest our fathers out of Egypt, O Lord God.

v. 41. Now therefore arise, O Lord God, into thy resting-place, thou, and the ark of thy strength: let thy priests, O Lord God, be clothed with salvation, and let thy saints rejoice in goodness. O Lord God, turn not away the face of thine anointed: remember the mercies of David thy servant.

ANSWER—2 Chron. vii. 12–22.

And the Lord appeared to Solomon by night, and said unto him, I have heard thy prayer, and have chosen this place to myself for an house of sacrifice. If I shut up heaven that there be no rain, or if I command the locusts to devour the land, or if I send pestilence among my people; if my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land. Now mine eyes shall be open, and mine ears attent unto the prayer that is made in this place. For now have I chosen and sanctified this house, that my name may be there for ever; and mine eyes and mine heart shall be there perpetually.

v. 17. And as for thee, if thou wilt walk before me, as David thy father walked, and do according to all that I have commanded thee, and shalt observe my statutes and my judgments; then will I stablish the throne of thy kingdom, according as I have covenanted with David thy father, saying, There shall not fail thee a man to be ruler in Israel.

v. 19. But if ye turn away, and forsake my statutes and my commandments, which I have set before you, and shall go and serve other gods, and worship them; then will I pluck them up by the roots out of my land which I have given them; and this house, which I have sanctified for my name, will I cast out of my sight, and will make it to be a proverb and a by-word among all nations. And this house, which is high, shall be an astonishment to every one that passeth by it; so that he shall say, Why hath the Lord done thus unto this land, and unto this house? And it shall be answered, Because they forsook the Lord God of their fathers, which brought them forth out of the land of Egypt, and laid hold on other gods, and worshipped them, and served them: therefore hath he brought all this evil upon them.

PROMISE—Ps. xxxvi. 8; lxv. 4; xxiii. 6.

They shall be abundantly satisfied with the fatness of thy house;
And thou shalt make them drink of the river of thy pleasures.

We shall be satisfied with the goodness of thy house,—even of thy holy temple.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days
of my life;
And I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

# THE SPOUSE.

## *In the Song of Songs.*

Jesus Christ: whom having not seen, ye love.—1 *Peter* i. 7, 8.

We love him, because he first loved us.—1 *John* iv. 19.

If any man love not the Lord Jesus Christ, let him be Anthema Maran-atha.—1 *Cor.* xvi. 22.

### PRAYER—chap. i. 2–4.

LET him kiss me with the kisses of his mouth:—for
thy love is better than wine.
Because of the savour of thy good ointments,
Thy name is as ointment poured forth,—therefore do
the virgins love thee.
Draw me, we will run after thee.

The King hath brought me into his chambers:
We will be glad and rejoice in thee;—we will remem-
ber thy love more than wine:
The upright love thee.

### ANSWER—chap. ii. 4.

He brought me to the banqueting-house,—and his
banner over me was love.

### PROMISE—John xiv. 21.

He that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and
I will love him, and will manifest myself to him.

PRAYER—chap. i. 7.

TELL me, O thou whom my soul loveth, where thou feedest,
Where thou makest thy flock to rest at noon:
For why should I be as one that turneth aside by the flocks of thy companions?

ANSWER—*v.* 8-11.

If thou know not, O thou fairest among women,
Go thy way forth by the footsteps of the flock,—and feed thy kids beside the shepherds' tents.
I have compared thee, O my love, to a company of horses in Pharaoh's chariots.
Thy cheeks are comely with rows of jewels,—thy neck with chains of gold.
We will make thee borders of gold, with studs of silver.

PROMISE—MATT. xviii. 20.

Where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.

PRAYER—chap. ii. 16-17.

MY beloved is mine, and I am his;—he feedeth among the lilies.
Until the day break, and the shadows flee away,
Turn, my beloved, and be thou like a roe or a young hart
Upon the mountains of Bether.*

ANSWER—chap. iv. 6, 7.

Until the day break, and the shadows flee away,

* *Margin*, Of division.

I will get me to the mountain of myrrh, and to the hill of frankincense.
Thou art all fair, my love;—there is no spot in thee.

PROMISE—MATT. xxviii. 20.

Lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

PRAYER—chap. iv. 16.

LET my beloved come into his garden,—and eat his pleasant fruits.

ANSWER—*v.* 1.

I am come into my garden, my sister, my spouse:
I have gathered my myrrh with my spice;
I have eaten my honeycomb with my honey;—I have drunk my wine with my milk:
Eat, O friends; drink, yea, drink abundantly, O beloved.

PROMISE—REV. iii. 20.

Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me.

PRAYER—chap. vii. 10-13.

I AM my beloved's,—and his desire is toward me.
Come, my beloved, let us go forth into the field;—let us lodge in the villages.
Let us get up early to the vineyards;—let us see if the vine flourish,
Whether the tender grape appear, and the pomegranates bud forth:

There will I give thee my loves.
The mandrakes give a smell,
And at our gates are all manner of pleasant fruits, new and old,
Which I have laid up for thee, O my beloved.

PROMISE—JOHN xiv. 23.

If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him.

PRAYER—chap. viii. 6, 7.

SET me as a seal upon thine heart,—as a seal upon thine arm:
For love is strong as death;—jealousy is cruel as the grave:
The coals thereof are coals of fire,—which hath a most vehement flame.
Many waters cannot quench love,—neither can the floods drown it:
If a man would give all the substance of his house for love,—it would utterly be contemned.

PROMISE—JOHN xv. 10.

If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love.

PRAYER—chap. viii. 14.

MAKE haste, my beloved, and be thou like to a roe
Or to a young hart upon the mountains of spices.

PROMISE—Rev. xxii. 12.

Behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be.

## AGUR.

### *For Deliverance from Temptation.*

The Lord is faithful, who shall stablish you, and keep you from evil.—2 *Thess.* iii. 3.

PRAYER—Prov. xxx. 7–9.

TWO things have I required of thee;—deny me them not before I die:
Remove far from me vanity and lies;—give me neither poverty nor riches;
Feed me with food convenient for me:
Lest I be full, and deny thee,—and say, Who is the Lord?
Or lest I be poor, and steal,—and take the name of my God in vain.

PROMISE—Ps. cxix. 165.

Great peace have they which love thy law;
And nothing shall offend them.*

## ASA.

### *For Help against the Ethiopians.*

That he would grant unto us,
That we, being delivered out of the hand of our enemies,—might serve him without fear,
In holiness and righteousness before him,—all the days of our life.
—*Luke* i. 74, 75.

* *Margin*, They shall have no stumbling-block.

2 CHRON. xiv. 9.

There came out against them Zerah the Ethiopian, with an host of a thousand thousand, and three hundred chariots; and came unto Mareshah. Then Asa went out against him, and they set the battle in array in the valley of Zephathah at Mareshah. And Asa cried unto the Lord his God, and said,

PRAYER—*v.* 11.

LORD, it is nothing with thee to help, whether with many, or with them that have no power: help us, O Lord our God; for we rest on thee, and in thy name we go against this multitude. O Lord, thou art our God; let not man prevail against thee.

ANSWER—*v.* 12, 13.

So the Lord smote the Ethiopians before Asa, and before Judah: and the Ethiopians fled. And Asa, and the people that were with him, pursued them unto Gerar: and the Ethiopians were overthrown, that they could not recover themselves; for they were destroyed before the Lord, and before his host: and they carried away very much spoil.

PROMISE—2 CHRON. xvi. 9.

The eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward him.

# ELIJAH.

## *For the Restoration of the Widow's Son.*

**Verily, verily, I say unto you, The hour is coming, and now is, when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God; and they that hear shall live.—*John* v. 25.**

1 KINGS xvii. 17.

The son of the woman, the mistress of the house, fell sick; and his sickness was so sore, that there was no breath left in him. And she said unto Elijah, What have I to do with thee, O thou man of God? art thou come unto me to call my sin to remembrance, and to slay my son? And he said unto her, Give me thy son. And he took him out of her bosom, and carried him up into a loft where he abode, and laid him upon his own bed. And he cried unto the Lord, and said,

PRAYER—*v.* 20, 21.

O LORD my God, hast thou also brought evil upon the widow with whom I sojourn, by slaying her son? . . . . O Lord my God, I pray thee, let this child's soul come into him again.

ANSWER—*v.* 22.

And the Lord heard the voice of Elijah; and the soul of the child came into him again, and he revived.

PROMISE—Ps. xxxvi. 9.

With thee is the fountain of life:—in thy light shall we see light.

## *That God might be Manifested by Fire from Heaven.*

If any man serve me, let him follow me; and where I am, there shall also my servant be: if any man serve me, him will my Father honour.—*John* xii. 26.

1 KINGS xviii. 21, 36.

Elijah came unto all the people, and said, How long

halt ye between two opinions? if the Lord be God, follow him: but if Baal, then follow him. And the people answered him not a word. Then said Elijah unto the people, I, even I only, remain a prophet of the Lord; but Baal's prophets are four hundred and fifty men. Let them therefore give us two bullocks; and let them choose one bullock for themselves, and cut it in pieces, and lay it on wood, and put no fire under; and I will dress the other bullock, and lay it on wood, and put no fire under: and call ye on the name of your gods, and I will call on the name of the Lord; and the God that answereth by fire, let him be God. And all the people answered and said, It is well spoken. . . . . And it came to pass, at the time of the offering of the evening sacrifice, that Elijah the prophet came near, and said,

PRAYER—*v.* 36.

LORD GOD of Abraham, Isaac, and of Israel, let it be known this day that thou art God in Israel, and that I am thy servant, and that I have done all these things at thy word. Hear me, O Lord, hear me; that this people may know that thou art the Lord God, and that thou hast turned their heart back again.

ANSWER—*v.* 38, 39.

Then the fire of the Lord fell, and consumed the burnt-sacrifice, and the wood, and the stones, and the dust, and licked up the water that was in the trench. And when all the people saw it, they fell on their faces; and they said, The Lord, he is the God; the Lord, he is the God.

PROMISE—ISA. xlv. 16, 17.

They shall be ashamed, and also confounded, all of them:
They shall go to confusion together that are makers of idols.
But Israel shall be saved in the Lord with an everlasting salvation:
Ye shall not be ashamed nor confounded world without end.

## *When Fleeing from Jezebel.*

Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.—*Matt.* v. 10.

1 KINGS xix. 3.

He arose, and went for his life, and came to Beersheba, which belongeth to Judah, and left his servant there. But he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a juniper tree: and he requested for himself that he might die; and said,

PRAYER—*v.* 4.

IT is enough: now, O Lord, take away my life; for I am not better than my fathers.

ANSWER—*v.* 13.

And, behold, there came a voice unto him, and said, What doest thou here, Elijah? And he said,

PRAYER—*v.* 14.

I HAVE been very jealous for the Lord God of hosts: because the children of Israel have forsaken thy covenant, thrown down thine altars, and slain thy pro-

phets with the sword; and I, even I only, am left; and they seek my life, to take it away.

ANSWER—ROM. xi. 4, 5.

What saith the answer of God unto him? I have reserved to myself seven thousand men, who have not bowed the knee to the image of Baal. Even so then at this present time also there is a remnant according to the election of grace.

PROMISE—PROV. xxix. 25.

The fear of man bringeth a snare:—but whoso putteth his trust in the Lord shall be safe.

# JEHOSHAPHAT.

## *For Deliverance from Moab.*

Thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory, through our Lord Jesus Christ.—1 *Cor.* xv. 57.

2 CHRON. xx. 5.

Jehoshaphat stood in the congregation of Judah and Jerusalem, in the house of the Lord, before the new court, and said,

PRAYER—*v.* 6–12.

O LORD God of our fathers, art not thou God in heaven? and rulest not thou over all the kingdoms of the heathen? and in thine hand is there not power and might, so that none is able to withstand thee? Art not thou our God, who didst drive out the inhabitants of this land before thy people Israel, and gavest it to the seed of Abraham thy friend for ever?

And they dwelt therein, and have built thee a sanctuary therein for thy name, saying, If, when evil cometh upon us, as the sword, judgment, or pestilence, or famine, we stand before this house, and in thy presence, (for thy name is in this house,) and cry unto thee in our affliction, then thou wilt hear and help. And now, behold, the children of Ammon, and Moab, and mount Seir, whom thou wouldest not let Israel invade, when they came out of the land of Egypt, but they turned from them, and destroyed them not; behold, I say, how they reward us, to come to cast us out of thy possession, which thou hast given us to inherit. O our God, wilt thou not judge them? for we have no might against this great company that cometh against us; neither know we what to do: but our eyes are upon thee.

ANSWER—*v.* 15, 24.

Thus saith the Lord unto you, Be not afraid nor dismayed by reason of this great multitude; for the battle is not yours but God's. To-morrow go ye down against them: behold, they come up by the cliff of Ziz; and ye shall find them at the end of the brook, before the wilderness of Jeruel. Ye shall not need to fight in this battle: set yourselves, stand ye still, and see the salvation of the Lord with you, O Judah and Jerusalem: fear not, nor be dismayed: to-morrow go out against them: for the Lord will be with you. . . . . And when Judah came toward the watch-tower in the wilderness, they looked unto the multitude, and, behold, they were dead bodies fallen to the earth, and none escaped.

PROMISE—Isa. xli. 12. 13.

Thou shalt seek them, and shalt not find them,—even *them that* contended with thee:

They that war against thee—shall be as nothing, and as
a thing of nought.
For I the Lord thy God will hold thy right hand,
Saying unto thee, Fear not; I will help thee.

# ELISHA.

## *When encompassed by the Syrians.*

Are they not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation?—*Heb.* i. 14.

2 KINGS vi. 15.

When the servant of the man of God was risen early, and gone forth, behold, an host compassed the city both with horses and chariots: and his servant said unto him, Alas, my master! how shall we do? And he answered, Fear not; for they that be with us are more than they that be with them. And Elisha prayed, and said,

PRAYER—*v.* 17.

LORD, I pray thee, open his eyes, that he may see.

ANSWER.

And the Lord opened the eyes of the young man; and he saw: and, behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire round about Elisha. And when they came down to him, Elisha prayed unto the Lord, and said,

PRAYER—*v.* 18.

SMITE this people, I pray thee, with blindness.

ANSWER.

And he smote them with blindness, according to the

word of Elisha. And Elisha said unto them, This is not the way, neither is this the city: follow me, and I will bring you to the man whom ye seek. But he led them to Samaria. And it came to pass, when they were come into Samaria, that Elisha said,

PRAYER—*v.* 20.

LORD, open the eyes of these men, that they may see.

ANSWER—*v.* 20–23.

And the Lord opened their eyes, and they saw; and, behold, they were in the midst of Samaria. And the king of Israel said unto Elisha, when he saw them, My father, shall I smite them? shall I smite them? And he answered, Thou shalt not smite them: wouldest thou smite those whom thou hast taken captive with thy sword and with thy bow? Set bread and water before them, that they may eat and drink, and go to their master. And he prepared great provision for them: and when they had eaten and drunk, he sent them away, and they went to their master. So the bands of Syria came no more into the land of Israel.

PROMISE—Ps. xxxiv. 7, 8.

The angel of the Lord encampeth round about them that fear him,—and delivereth them.

O taste and see that the Lord is good:—blessed is the man that trusteth in him.

# THE SAILORS OF JOPPA.

## *Before casting Jonah into the Sea.*

**Whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.** ***Rom.* x. 13.**

JONAH i. 13.

The men rowed hard to bring it to the land; but they could not: for the sea wrought, and was tempestuous against them. Wherefore they cried unto the Lord, and said,

PRAYER—*v.* 14.

WE beseech thee, O Lord, we beseech thee, let us not perish for this man's life, and lay not upon us innocent blood: for thou, O Lord, hast done as it pleased thee.

ANSWER—*v.* 15, 16.

So they took up Jonah, and cast him forth into the sea; and the sea ceased from her raging. Then the men feared the Lord exceedingly, and offered a sacrifice unto the Lord, and made vows.

PROMISE—Ps. cvii. 28–30.

They cry unto the Lord in their trouble,—and he bringeth them out of their distresses.
He maketh the storm a calm,—so that the waves thereof are still.
Then are they glad because they be quiet;—so he bringeth them unto their desired haven.

# JONAH.

## *Out of the Fish's Belly.*

**As Jonas was a sign unto the Ninevites, so shall also the Son of man be to this generation.—*Luke* xi. 30.**

JONAH i. 17; ii. 1.

Now the Lord had prepared a great fish to swallow

up Jonah. And Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights. Then Jonah prayed unto the Lord his God out of the fish's belly, and said,

PRAYER—*v.* 2.

I CRIED by reason of mine affliction unto the Lord, and he heard me;
Out of the belly of hell cried I, and thou heardest my voice.
For thou hadst cast me into the deep, in the midst of the seas;
And the floods compassed me about:—all thy billows and thy waves passed over me.
Then I said, I am cast out of thy sight;—yet I will look again toward thy holy temple.
The waters compassed me about even to the soul:
The depth closed me round about,—the weeds were wrapped about my head.
I went down to the bottoms of the mountains:—the earth with her bars was about me for ever:
Yet hast thou brought up my life from corruption, O Lord my God.
When my soul fainted within me I remembered the Lord;
And my prayer came in unto thee, into thine holy temple.
They that observe lying vanities forsake their own mercy.
But I will sacrifice unto thee with the voice of thanksgiving;
I will pay that that I have vowed.—Salvation is of the Lord.

ANSWER—*v.* 10.

And the Lord spake unto the fish, and it vomited out Jonah upon the dry land.

PROMISE—JOB xxxiii. 27, 28.

He looketh upon men; and if any say,
I have sinned, and perverted that which was right,—
and it profited me not;
He will deliver his soul from going into the pit,—and
his life shall see the light.

## *When God spared Nineveh.*

**The men of Nineve shall rise up in the judgment with this generation, and shall condemn it: for they repented at the preaching of Jonas; and, behold, a greater than Jonas is here.—*Luke* xi. 32.**

JONAH iii. 10; iv. 1.

God saw their works, that they turned from their evil way; and God repented of the evil that he had said that he would do unto them; and he did it not. But it displeased Jonah exceedingly, and he was very angry. And he prayed unto the Lord, and said,

PRAYER—*v.* 2.

I PRAY thee, O Lord, was not this my saying when I was yet in my country? therefore I fled before unto Tarshish: for I knew that thou art a gracious God, and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repentest thee of the evil. Therefore now, O Lord, take, I beseech thee, my life from me: for it is better for me to die than to live.

ANSWER—*v.* 4, 10, 11.

Then said the Lord, Doest thou well to be angry?

. . . . Thou hast had pity on the gourd, for the which thou hast not laboured, neither madest it grow; which came up in a night, and perished in a night: and should not I spare Nineveh, that great city, wherein are more than six-score thousand persons that cannot discern between their right hand and their left hand; and also much cattle?

PROMISE—LAM. iii. 22, 23.

It is of the Lord's mercies that we are not consumed,
because his compassions fail not.
They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness.

# JUDAH.

## *For the Land.*

The creature itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God.—*Rom.* viii. 21.

JOEL i. 14.

Sanctify ye a fast, call a solemn assembly,
Gather the elders, and all the inhabitants of the land,
Into the house of the Lord your God,—and cry unto
the Lord,

PRAYER—*v.* 15–20.

ALAS for the day!—for the day of the Lord is at
hand,
And as a destruction from the Almighty shall it come.
Is not the meat cut off before our eyes,—yea, joy and
gladness from the house of our God?
The seed is rotten under their clods,

The garners are laid desolate, the barns are broken down;—for the corn is withered.
How do the beasts groan!—the herds of cattle are perplexed, because they have no pasture;
Yea, the flocks of sheep are made desolate.
O Lord, to thee will I cry:—for the fire hath devoured the pastures of the wilderness,
And the flame hath burnt all the trees of the field.
The beasts of the field cry also unto thee;—for the rivers of waters are dried up,
And the fire hath devoured the pastures of the wilderness.

ANSWER—Chap. ii. 12.

Therefore also now, saith the Lord,—Turn ye even to me with all your heart,
And with fasting, and with weeping, and with mourning:
And rend your heart, and not your garments,
And turn unto the Lord your God:—for he is gracious and merciful,
Slow to anger, and of great kindness,—and repenteth him of the evil.
Who knoweth if he will return and repent,—and leave a blessing behind him,
Even a meat-offering and a drink-offering unto the Lord your God?

Blow the trumpet in Zion,—sanctify a fast, call a solemn assembly;
Gather the people, sanctify the congregation,—assemble the elders,
Gather the children, and those that suck the breasts;

Let the bridegroom go forth of his chamber,—and the bride out of her closet:
Let the priests, the ministers of the Lord,—weep between the porch and the altar,
And let them say,

PRAYER—*v.* 17.

SPARE thy people, O Lord,
And give not thine heritage to reproach,—that the heathen should rule over them:
Wherefore should they say among the people, Where is their God?

ANSWER—*v.* 18-27.

Then will the Lord be jealous for his land,—and pity his people.
Yea, the Lord will answer and say unto his people,
Behold, I will send you corn,—and wine, and oil, and ye shall be satisfied therewith;
And I will no more make you a reproach among the heathen:
But I will remove far off from you the northern army,
And will drive him into a land barren and desolate,
With his face toward the east sea;—and his hinder part toward the utmost sea:
And his stink shall come up, and his ill savour shall come up,
Because he hath done great things.
Fear not, O land; be glad and rejoice:—for the Lord will do great things.
Be not afraid, ye beasts of the field:—for the pastures of the wilderness do spring,

For the tree beareth her fruit,—the fig tree and the vine do yield their strength.
Be glad then, ye children of Zion,—and rejoice in the Lord your God:
For he hath given you the former rain moderately,
And he will cause to come down for you the rain,
The former rain, and the latter rain in the first month.
And the floor shall be full of wheat,—and the fats shall overflow with wine and oil.
And I will restore to you the years that the locust hath eaten,
The canker-worm, and the caterpillar, and the palmer-worm,
My great army which I sent among you.
And ye shall eat in plenty, and be satisfied,
And praise the name of the Lord your God,—that hath dealt wondrously with you;
And my people shall never be ashamed.
And ye shall know that I am in the midst of Israel,
And that I am the Lord your God, and none else:
And my people shall never be ashamed.

PROMISE—Ps. xxxvii. 18, 19.

The Lord knoweth the days of the upright;—and their inheritance shall be for ever.
They shall not be ashamed in the evil time:—and in the days of famine they shall be satisfied.

# AMOS.

## *Interceding for Jacob.*

Hath God cast away his people? God forbid. . . . . God hath not cast away his people which he foreknew.—*Rom.* xi. 1, 2.

AMOS vii. 1.

Thus hath the Lord God shewed unto me; and, behold, he formed grashoppers in the beginning of the shooting up of the latter growth; and, lo, it was the latter growth after the king's mowings. And it came to pass, that when they had made an end of eating the grass of the land, then I said,

PRAYER—*v.* 2.

O LORD GOD, forgive, I beseech thee:
By whom shall Jacob arise?—for he is small.

ANSWER—*v.* 3, 4.

The Lord repented for this:—It shall not be, saith the Lord.

Thus hath the Lord God shewed unto me: and, behold, the Lord God called to contend by fire, and it devoured the great deep, and did eat up a part. Then said I,

PRAYER—*v.* 5.

O LORD GOD, cease, I beseech thee:
By whom shall Jacob arise?—for he is small.

ANSWER—*v.* 6.

The Lord repented for this:—This also shall not be, saith the Lord God.

PROMISE—Chap. ix. 13–15.

Behold, the days come, saith the Lord,—that the plowman shall overtake the reaper,
And the treader of grapes him that soweth seed;
And the mountains shall drop sweet wine,—and all the *hills* shall melt.

And I will bring again the captivity of my people of Israel,
And they shall build the waste cities, and inhabit them;
And they shall plant vineyards, and drink the wine thereof;
They shall also make gardens, and eat the fruit of them
And I will plant them upon their land,
And they shall no more be pulled up out of their land which I have given them,
Saith the Lord thy God.

# ISRAEL.

## *Returning unto the Lord.*

Now, if the fall of them be the riches of the world, and the diminishing of them the riches of the Gentiles; how much more their fulness!—*Rom.* xi. 12.

HOSEA xiv. 1.

O Israel, return unto the Lord thy God;—for thou hast fallen by thine iniquity.
Take with you words, and turn to the Lord:
Say unto him,

PRAYER—*v.* 2.

TAKE away all iniquity, and receive us graciously:
So will we render the calves of our lips.
Asshur shall not save us;—we will not ride upon horses;
Neither will we say any more to the work of our hands, Ye are our gods:
For in thee the fatherless findeth mercy.

ANSWER—*v.* 4–9.

I will heal their backsliding,—I will love them freely:

For mine anger is turned away from him.
I will be as the dew unto Israel:
He shall grow as the lily,—and cast forth his roots as Lebanon.
His branches shall spread,
And his beauty shall be as the olive tree,—and his smell as Lebanon.
They that dwell under his shadow shall return:
They shall revive as the corn, and grow as the vine:
The scent thereof shall be as the wine of Lebanon.
Ephraim shall say, What have I to do any more with idols?
I have heard him, and observed him:
I am like a green fir tree:—from me is thy fruit found.
Who is wise,—and he shall understand these things?
Prudent,—and he shall know them?
For the ways of the Lord are right, and the just shall walk in them:
But the transgressors shall fall therein.

PROMISE—Ps. ciii. 17, 18.

The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting upon them that fear him,
And his righteousness unto children's children;
To such as keep his covenant,—and to those that remember his commandments to do them.

# HEZEKIAH.

## *For those who ate unworthily the Passover.*

If I then, your Lord and Master, have washed your feet, ye also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done to you.—*John* xiii. 14, 15.

2 CHRON. xxx. 18.

A multitude of the people, even many of Ephraim, and Manasseh, Issachar, and Zebulun, had not cleansed themselves, yet did they eat the passover otherwise than it was written: but Hezekiah prayed for them, saying,

PRAYER.

THE good Lord pardon every one that prepareth his heart to seek God, the Lord God of his fathers, though he be not cleansed according to the purification of the sanctuary.

ANSWER—*v.* 20.

And the Lord hearkened to Hezekiah, and healed the people.

PROMISE—PROV. xiv. 22.

Mercy and truth shall be to them that devise good.

## *When his Life was prolonged—Thanksgiving.*

Fear not; I am the first and the last: I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death.—*Rev.* i. 17, 18.

ISA. xxxviii. 1.

In those days was Hezekiah sick unto death. And Isaiah the prophet, the son of Amoz, came unto him, and said unto him, Thus saith the Lord, Set thine house in order: for thou shalt die, and not live. Then Hezekiah turned his face toward the wall, and prayed unto the Lord, and said,

PRAYER—*v.* 3.

REMEMBER now, O Lord, I beseech thee, how I have walked before thee in truth, and with a perfect heart, and have done that which is good in thy sight:

ANSWER—*v.* 3–9.

And Hezekiah wept sore. Then came the word of the Lord to Isaiah, saying, Go and say to Hezekiah, Thus saith the Lord, the God of David thy father, I have heard thy prayer, I have seen thy tears; behold, I will add unto thy days fifteen years. And I will deliver thee and this city out of the hand of the king of Assyria: and I will defend this city. And this shall be a sign unto thee from the Lord, that the Lord will do this thing that he hath spoken; behold, I will bring again the shadow of the degrees, which is gone down in the sun-dial of Ahaz, ten degrees backward. So the sun returned ten degrees, by which degrees it was gone down.

The writing of Hezekiah king of Judah, when he had been sick, and was recovered of his sickness:

PRAYER—*v.* 10-20.

I SAID in the cutting off of my days, I shall go to the gates of the grave:
I am deprived of the residue of my years.
I said, I shall not see the Lord,—even the Lord, in the land of the living;
I shall behold man no more with the inhabitants of the world.
Mine age is departed, and is removed from me as a shepherd's tent:

I have cut off like a weaver my life;
He will cut me off with pining sickness:
From day even to night wilt thou make an end of me.
I reckoned till morning, that as a lion,—so will he break all my bones:
From day even to night wilt thou make an end of me.
Like a crane, or a swallow, so did I chatter;—I did mourn as a dove:
Mine eyes fail with looking upward:—O Lord, I am oppressed; undertake for me.
What shall I say?—he hath both spoken unto me, and himself hath done it:
I shall go softly all my years—in the bitterness of my soul.
O Lord, by these things men live,—and in all these things is the life of my spirit:
So wilt thou recover me, and make me to live.
Behold, for peace I had great bitterness;
But thou hast in love to my soul delivered it from the pit of corruption:
For thou hast cast all my sins behind thy back.
For the grave cannot praise thee;—death can not celebrate thee:
They that go down into the pit cannot hope for thy truth.
The living, the living, he shall praise thee, as I do this day;
The father to the children shall make known thy truth.
The Lord was ready to save me:
Therefore we will sing my songs to the stringed instruments
All the days of our life in the house of the Lord.

PROMISE.—PROV. iii. 1, 2; JOB xix. 25-27.

My son, forget not my law;—but let thine heart keep my commandments:
For length of days, and long life,—and peace, shall they add to thee.

I know that my Redeemer liveth,—and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth:
And though after my skin worms destroy this body,—yet in my flesh shall I see God:
Whom I shall see for myself,—and mine eyes shall behold, and not another;
Though my reins be consumed within me.

## *On receiving Sennacherib's Letter.*

Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them; because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world.—1 *John* iv. 4.

2 KINGS xix. 14.

Hezekiah received the letter of the hand of the messengers, and read it: and Hezekiah went up into the house of the Lord, and spread it before the Lord. And Hezekiah prayed before the Lord, and said,

PRAYER—*v.* 15.

O LORD GOD of Israel, which dwellest between the cherubims, thou art the God, even thou alone, of all the kingdoms of the earth; thou hast made heaven and earth. Lord, bow down thine ear, and hear; open, Lord, thine eyes, and see; and hear the words of Sennacherib, which hath sent him to reproach the living God. Of a truth, Lord, the kings of Assyria have de-

stroyed the nations and their lands, and have cast their gods into the fire; for they were no gods, but the work of men's hands, wood and stone; therefore they have destroyed them. Now therefore, O Lord our God, I beseech thee, save thou us out of his hand, that all the kingdoms of the earth may know that thou art the Lord God, even thou only.

ANSWER—*v.* 20, 32–36.

Then Isaiah the son of Amoz sent to Hezekiah, saying, Thus saith the Lord God of Israel, That which thou hast prayed to me against Sennacherib king of Assyria I have heard. This is the word that the Lord hath spoken concerning him; The virgin, the daughter of Zion, hath despised thee, and laughed thee to scorn; the daughter of Jerusalem hath shaken her head at thee. Whom hast thou reproached and blasphemed? and against whom hast thou exalted thy voice, and lifted up thine eyes on high? even against the Holy One of Israel. . . . . Therefore thus saith the Lord concerning the king of Assyria, He shall not come into this city, nor shoot an arrow there, nor come before it with shield, nor cast a bank against it. By the way that he came, by the same shall he return, and shall not come into this city, saith the Lord. For I will defend this city, to save it, for mine own sake, and for my servant David's sake. And it came to pass that night, that the angel of the Lord went out, and smote in the camp of the Assyrians an hundred fourscore and five thousand: and when they arose early in the morning, behold, they were all dead corpses. So Sennacherib king of Assyria departed, and went and returned, and dwelt at Nineveh.

PROMISE—DEUT. xx. 2–4.

If shall be, when ye are come nigh unto the battle, that the priest shall approach and speak unto the people, and shall say unto them, Hear, O Israel; Ye approach this day unto battle against your enemies: let not your hearts faint; fear not, and do not tremble, neither be ye terrified because of them: for the Lord your God is he that goeth with you, to fight for you against your enemies, to save you.

# MICAH.

## *For God's Solitary Flock.*

Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.—*Luke* xii. 32.

PRAYER—MICAH vii. 14, 18–20.

FEED thy people with thy rod,—the flock of thine heritage,
Which dwell solitarily in the wood, in the midst of Carmel:
Let them feed in Bashan and Gilead, as in the days of old.

. . . . . .

Who is a God like unto thee,—that pardoneth iniquity,
And passeth by the transgression of the remnant of his heritage?
He retaineth not his anger for ever, because he delighteth in mercy.
He will turn again, he will have compassion upon us;—he will subdue our iniquities:
And thou wilt cast all their sins into the depths of the sea.

Thou wilt perform the truth to Jacob,—and the mercy to Abraham,
Which thou hast sworn unto our fathers from the days of old.

PROMISE—JER. l. 19, 20.

I will bring Israel again to his habitation,
And he shall feed on Carmel and Bashan,
And his soul shall be satisfied upon mount Ephraim and Gilead.
In those days, and in that time, saith the Lord,
The iniquity of Israel shall be sought for,—and there shall be none;
And the sins of Judah,—and they shall not be found:
For I will pardon them whom I reserve.

# ISAIAH.

## *For God's saving Help towards His People.*

He hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee. So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me.—*Heb.* xiii. 5, 6.

PRAYER—ISA. xxxiii. 2, 3.

O LORD, be gracious unto us; we have waited for thee:
Be thou their arm every morning,—our salvation also in the time of trouble.
At the noise of the tumult the people fled;
At the lifting up of thyself the nations were scattered.

PROMISE—*v.* 20–22.

Look upon Zion, the city of our solemnities:
Thine eyes shall see Jerusalem a quiet habitation,
A tabernacle that shall not be taken down;
Not one of the stakes thereof shall ever be removed,
Neither shall any of the cords thereof be broken:
But there the glorious Lord will be unto us—a place of broad rivers and streams;
Wherein shall go no galley with oars,—neither shall gallant ship pass thereby.
For the Lord is our judge, the Lord is our lawgiver,
The Lord is our king; he will save us.

PRAYER—Isa. li. 9, 10.

AWAKE! awake! put on strength, O arm of the Lord;
Awake! as in the ancient days, in the generations of old.
Art thou not it that hath cut Rahab,—and wounded the dragon?
Art thou not it which hath dried the sea,—the waters of the great deep;
That hath made the depths of the sea a way for the ransomed to pass over?

ANSWER—*v.* 12–16.

I, even I, am he that comforteth you:
Who art thou, that thou shouldest be afraid of a man that shall die,
And of the son of man which shall be made as grass;
And forgettest the Lord thy Maker,
That hath stretched forth the heavens, and laid the foundations of the earth;

And hast feared continually every day,—because of the fury of the oppressor,
As if he were ready to destroy?—and where is the fury of the oppressor?
The captive exile hasteneth that he may be loosed,
And that he should not die in the pit,—nor that his bread should fail.
But I am the Lord thy God,—that divided the sea, whose waves roared:
The Lord of hosts is his name.
And I have put my words in thy mouth,
And I have covered thee in the shadow of mine hand,
That I may plant the heavens, and lay the foundations of the earth,
And say unto Zion, Thou art my people.

PROMISE—NUM. xxiii. 23.

Surely there is no enchantment against Jacob,
Neither is there any divination against Israel:
According to this time it shall be said of Jacob—and of Israel, What hath God wrought!

## *Seeking after and Mourning for the Lord.*

Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted.—*Matt.* v. 3, 4.

PRAYER—ISAIAH lxiii. 15; lxiv.

LOOK down from heaven,
And behold from the habitation of thy holiness and of thy glory;

Where is thy zeal and thy strength,
The sounding of thy bowels and of thy mercies toward me?—are they restrained?
Doubtless thou art our Father,
Though Abraham be ignorant of us,—and Israel acknowledge us not:
Thou, O Lord, art our Father, our Redeemer;—thy name is from everlasting.
O Lord, why hast thou made us to err from thy ways,
And hardened our heart from thy fear?
Return for thy servants' sake,—the tribes of thine inheritance.
The people of thy holiness have possessed it but a little while:
Our adversaries have trodden down thy sanctuary.
We are thine: thou never barest rule over them;—
They were not called by thy name.

*v.* 1. Oh that thou wouldest rend the heavens, that thou wouldest come down,
That the mountains might flow down at thy presence;
As when the melting fire burneth,—the fire causeth the waters to boil;
To make thy name known to thine adversaries,
That the nations may tremble at thy presence!
When thou didst terrible things which we looked not for,
Thou camest down, the mountains flowed down at thy presence.
For since the beginning of the world men have not heard,—nor perceived by the ear,
Neither hath the eye seen, O God, besides thee,
What he hath prepared for him that waiteth for him.

Thou meetest him that rejoiceth and worketh righteousness;
Those that remember thee in thy ways:
Behold, thou art wroth; for we have sinned:
In those is continuance, and we shall be saved.
But we are all as an unclean thing,
And all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags;
And we all do fade as a leaf:—and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away.
And there is none that calleth upon thy name,
That stirreth up himself to take hold of thee:
For thou hast hid thy face from us,—and hast consumed us, because of our iniquities.
But now, O Lord, thou art our Father:
We are the clay, and thou our potter;—and we all are the work of thy hand.
Be not wroth very sore, O Lord,—neither remember iniquity for ever:
Behold, see, we beseech thee, we are all thy people.
Thy holy cities are a wilderness,—Zion is a wilderness, Jerusalem a desolation.
Our holy and our beautiful house, where our fathers praised thee,
Is burnt up with fire:—and all our pleasant things are laid waste.
Wilt thou refrain thyself for these things, O Lord?
Wilt thou hold thy peace, and afflict us very sore?

PROMISE—Chap. lxv. 8–10; Zech. viii. 3–5.

Thus saith the Lord,
As the new wine is found in the cluster,—and one saith, Destroy it not; for a blessing is in it:

So will I do for my servants' sakes, that I may not destroy them all.
And I will bring forth a seed out of Jacob,—and out of Judah an inheritor of my mountains:
And mine elect shall inherit it,—and my servants shall dwell there.
And Sharon shall be a fold of flocks,
And the valley of Achor a place for the herds to lie down in,
For my people that have sought me.

Thus saith the Lord,
I am returned unto Zion, and will dwell in the midst of Jerusalem:
And Jerusalem shall be called, A city of truth;
And the mountain of the Lord of hosts, The holy mountain.
Thus saith the Lord of hosts,
There shall yet old men and old women dwell in the streets of Jerusalem,
And every man with his staff in his hand for very age.
And the streets of the city shall be full of boys and girls playing in the streets thereof.

# HABAKKUK.

## *Concerning the Iniquity of the Land.*

Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.—*Matt.* v. 6.

HAB. i. 1.

The burden which Habakkuk the prophet did see.

PRAYER—*v.* 2.

O LORD, how long shall I cry,—and thou wilt not hear!
Even cry out unto thee of violence,—and thou wilt not save!
Why dost thou show me iniquity, and cause me to behold grievance?
For spoiling and violence are before me:
And there are that raise up strife and contention.
Therefore the law is slacked,—and judgment doth never go forth:
For the wicked doth compass about the righteous;—therefore wrong judgment proceedeth.

ANSWER—*v.* 5, 9.

Behold ye among the heathen, and regard,—and wonder marvellously;
For I will work a work in your days,—which ye will not believe, though it be told you.
For, lo, I raise up the Chaldeans, that bitter and hasty nation,
Which shall march through the breadth of the land,
To possess the dwelling-places that are not theirs. . . . .
They shall come all for violence:—their faces shall sup up as the east wind,
And they shall gather the captivity as the sand.

PROMISE—MAL. iii. 3, 4.

He shall sit as a refiner and purifier of silver:
And he shall purify the sons of Levi,—and purge them as gold and silver,
That they may offer unto the Lord an offering in righteousness.

Then shall the offering of Judah and Jerusalem be pleasant unto the Lord,
As in the days of old,—and as in former years.

## *On the Chaldean Invasion being foretold.*

**If we would judge ourselves, we should not be judged. But when we are judged, we are chastened of the Lord, that we should not be condemned with the world.—1 *Cor.* xi. 31, 32.**

PRAYER—HAB. i. 12-17.

ART thou not from everlasting, O Lord my God, mine Holy One?—we shall not die.
O Lord, thou hast ordained them for judgment;
And, O mighty God, thou hast established them for correction.
Thou art of purer eyes than to behold evil,—and canst not look on iniquity:
Wherefore lookest thou upon them that deal treacherously,
And holdest thy tongue when the wicked devoureth the man that is more righteous than he?
And makest men as the fishes of the sea,
As the creeping things, that have no ruler over them?
They take up all of them with the angle,—they catch them in their net,
And gather them in their drag:—therefore they rejoice and are glad.
Therefore they sacrifice unto their net,—and burn incense unto their drag;
Because by them their portion is fat,—and their meat plenteous.
Shall they therefore empty their net,—and not spare continually to slay the nations?

ANSWER—JER. li. 1, 5, 24, 36.

Thus saith the Lord, . . . .
Israel hath not been forsaken,—nor Judah of his God,
of the Lord of hosts;
Though their land was filled with sin against the Holy
One of Israel. . . . .
I will render unto Babylon,—and to all the inhabitants
of Chaldea,
All their evil that they have done in Zion in your sight,
saith the Lord. . . . .
Behold, I will plead thy cause, and take vengeance for
thee.

PROMISE—MICAH vii. 8-10.

Rejoice not against me, O mine enemy:—when I fall,—
I shall arise;
When I sit in darkness,—the Lord shall be a light un-
to me.
I will bear the indignation of the Lord,—because I
have sinned against him,
Until he plead my cause, and execute judgment for me:
He will bring me forth to the light,—and I shall be-
hold his righteousness.
Then she that is mine enemy shall see it,
And shame shall cover her which said unto me,—Where
is the Lord thy God?
Mine eyes shall behold her:—now shall she be trodden
down as the mire of the streets.

## *When shown the Future Judgments on the Chaldeans.*

We look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal.—2 COR. iv. 18.

HAB. iii. 1.

A prayer of Habakkuk the prophet upon Shigionoth.

PRAYER—*v.* 2–19.

O LORD, I have heard thy speech, and was afraid:
O Lord, revive thy work in the midst of the years,
In the midst of the years make known;—in wrath remember mercy.
God came from Teman,—and the Holy One from mount Paran. Selah.
His glory covered the heavens,—and the earth was full of his praise.
And his brightness was as the light;
He had horns coming out of his hand:
And there was the hiding of his power.
Before him went the pestilence,—and burning coals went forth at his feet.
He stood, and measured the earth:—he beheld, and drove asunder the nations;
And the everlasting mountains were scattered,—the perpetual hills did bow;
His ways are everlasting.
I saw the tents of Cushan in affliction:
And the curtains of the land of Midian did tremble.
Was the Lord displeased against the rivers?
Was thine anger against the rivers?—was thy wrath against the sea,
That thou didst ride upon thine horses,—and thy chariots of salvation?
Thy bow was made quite naked,—according to the oaths of the tribes, even thy word. Selah.
*Thou* didst cleave the earth with rivers.

The mountains saw thee, and they trembled;—the overflowing of the water passed by:
The deep uttered his voice,—and lifted up his hands on high.
The sun and moon stood still in their habitation:
At the light of thine arrows they went,—and at the shining of thy glittering spear.
Thou didst march through the land in indignation,—thou didst thrash the heathen in anger.
Thou wentest forth for the salvation of thy people,—even for salvation with thine anointed;
Thou woundedst the head out of the house of the wicked,
By discovering the foundation unto the neck. Selah.
Thou didst strike through with his staves the head of his villages;
They came out as a whirlwind to scatter me:
Their rejoicing was as to devour the poor secretly.
Thou didst walk through the sea with thine horses,—through the heap of great waters.
When I heard, my belly trembled;—my lips quivered at the voice:
Rottenness entered into my bones, and I trembled in myself,
That I might rest in the day of trouble:
When he cometh up unto the people, he will invade them with his troops.

v. 17. Although the fig tree shall not blossom,—neither shall fruit be in the vines;
The labour of the olive shall fail,—and the fields shall yield no meat;
The flock shall be cut off from the fold,—and there shall be no herd in the stalls:

Yet I will rejoice in the Lord,—I will joy in the God of my salvation.
The Lord God is my strength,—and he will make my feet like hinds' feet,
And he will make me to walk upon mine high places.

PROMISE—Isa. xxvi. 3, 4; xxxiii. 16.

Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee;
Because he trusteth in thee.
Trust ye in the Lord for ever:—for in the Lord JEHOVAH is everlasting strength.

He shall dwell on high;—his place of defence shall be the munitions of rocks;
Bread shall be given him,—his waters shall be sure.

# EPHRAIM.

## *Bemoaning himself.*

Godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of: but the sorrow of the world worketh death.—2 *Cor.* vii. 10.

Jer. xxxi. 18.

I have surely heard Ephraim bemoaning himself thus;

PRAYER.

THOU hast chastised me,—and I was chastised, as a bullock unaccustomed to the yoke:
Turn thou me, and I shall be turned;—for thou art the Lord my God.
*Surely after* that I was turned, I repented;

And after that I was instructed, I smote upon my thigh:
I was ashamed, yea, even confounded,—because I did bear the reproach of my youth.

ANSWER—*v.* 20.

Is Ephraim my dear son?—is he a pleasant child?
For since I spake against him, I do earnestly remember him still;
Therefore my bowels are troubled for him:
I will surely have mercy upon him, saith the Lord.

PROMISE—ZECH. i. 3.

Thus saith the Lord of hosts,
Turn ye unto me, saith the Lord of hosts,
And I will turn unto you, saith the Lord of hosts.

# JEREMIAH.

## *As God's Rejected and Persecuted Prophet.**

Blessed are ye when men shall hate you, and when they shall separate you from their company, and shall reproach you, and cast out your name as evil, for the Son of man's sake. Rejoice ye in that day, and leap for joy: for, behold, your reward is great in heaven: for in the like manner did their fathers unto the prophets.—*Luke* vi. 22, 23.

And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, in flaming fire, taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.—2 *Thess.* i. 7, 8.

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* No prophecy of the Scripture is of any private interpretation. For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man; but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.—2 *Peter* i. 20, 21.

The God of peace shall bruise Satan under your feet shortly.—*Rom.* xvi. 20.

JER. xi. 18. (See also chap. xx. 12.)

The Lord hath given me knowledge of it, and I know it:
Then thou showedst me their doings.
But I was like a lamb or an ox that is brought to the slaughter;
And I knew not that they had devised devices against me, saying,
Let us destroy the tree with the fruit thereof,
And let us cut him off from the land of the living,
That his name may be no more remembered.

PRAYER—*v.* 20.

BUT, O Lord of hosts, that judgest righteously,—that triest the reins and the heart,
Let me see thy vengeance on them; for unto thee have I revealed my cause.

ANSWER—*v.* 21-23.

Therefore thus saith the Lord
Of the men of Anathoth, that seek thy life, saying,
Prophecy not in the name of the Lord, that thou die not by our hand:
Therefore thus saith the Lord of hosts,
Behold, I will punish them:—the young men shall die by the sword;
Their sons and their daughters shall die by famine:
And there shall be no remnant of them:
For I will bring evil upon the men of Anathoth,—even the year of their visitation.

PRAYER—chap. xii. 1-4.

RIGHTEOUS art thou, O Lord, when I plead with thee;
Yet let me talk with thee of thy judgments:
Wherefore doth the way of the wicked prosper?
Wherefore are all they happy that deal very treacherously?
Thou hast planted them;—yea, they have taken root:
They grow;—yea, they bring forth fruit:
Thou art near in their mouth,—and far from their reins.
But thou, O Lord, knowest me:—thou hast seen me, and tried mine heart toward thee:
Pull them out like sheep for the slaughter,—and prepare them for the day of slaughter.
How long shall the land mourn,—and the herbs of every field wither,
For the wickedness of them that dwell therein?
The beasts are consumed, and the birds;
Because they said, He shall not see our last end.

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JER. xviii. 18.

Then said they,—Come and let us devise devices against Jeremiah;
For the law shall not perish from the priest,
Nor counsel from the wise,—nor the word from the prophet:
Come, and let us smite him with the tongue,
And let us not give heed to any of his words.

PRAYER—*v.* 19-23.

GIVE heed to me, O Lord,—and hearken to the voice of them that contend with me.

Shall evil be recompensed for good?—for they have digged a pit for my soul.
Remember that I stood before thee to speak good for them,
And to turn away thy wrath from them.
Therefore deliver up their children to the famine,
And pour out their blood by the force of the sword;
And let their wives be bereaved of their children, and be widows;
And let their men be put to death;—let their young men be slain by the sword in battle.
Let a cry be heard from their houses,—when thou shalt bring a troop suddenly upon them;
For they have digged a pit to take me,—and hid snares for my feet.
Yet, Lord, thou knowest all their counsel against me to slay me:
Forgive not their iniquity,—neither blot out their sin from thy sight,
But let them be overthrown before thee;—deal thus with them in the time of thine anger.

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JER. XV. 10.

Woe is me, my mother,—that thou hast born me a man of strife
And a man of contention to the whole earth!
I have neither lent on usury, nor men have lent to me on usury;
Yet every one of them doth curse me. . . . .

PRAYER—*v.* 15.

O LORD, thou knowest: remember me,—and visit me, and revenge me of my persecutors;

Take me not away in thy long-suffering:—know that
for thy sake I have suffered rebuke.
The words were found, and I did eat them;
And thy word was unto me the joy and rejoicing of
mine heart:
For I am called by thy name, O Lord God of hosts.
I sat not in the assembly of the mockers, nor rejoiced;
I sat alone because of thy hand:—for thou hast filled
me with indignation.
Why is my pain perpetual,—and my wound incurable,
which refuseth to be healed?
Wilt thou be altogether unto me as a liar,—and as
waters that fail?

ANSWER—*v.* 19, 21.

Therefore thus saith the Lord,
If thou return, then will I bring thee again,—and thou
shalt stand before me;
And if thou take forth the precious from the vile,—
thou shalt be as my mouth:
Let them return unto thee;—but return not thou unto
them.
And I will make thee unto this people a fenced brasen
wall;
And they shall fight against thee, but they shall not
prevail against thee:
For I am with thee to save thee, and to deliver thee,
saith the Lord.
And I will deliver thee out of the hand of the wicked,
And I will redeem thee out of the hand of the terrible.

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PRAYER—JER. xvii. 13-18.

O LORD, the hope of Israel,—all that forsake thee
shall be ashamed,

And they that depart from me shall be written in the earth,
Because they have forsaken the Lord, the fountain of living waters.
Heal me, O Lord, and I shall be healed;—save me, and I shall be saved:
For thou art my praise.
Behold, they say unto me,—Where is the word of the Lord?—let it come now.
As for me, I have not hastened from being a pastor to follow thee:
Neither have I desired the woeful day; thou knowest:
That which came out of my lips was right before thee.
Be not a terror unto me:—thou art my hope in the day of evil.
Let them be confounded that persecute me,—but let not me be confounded;
Let them be dismayed,—but let not me be dismayed:
Bring upon them the day of evil,—and destroy them with double destruction.

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PRAYER—JER. x. 6, 23–25.

FORASMUCH as there is none like unto thee, O Lord;
Thou art great, and thy name is great in might.
Who would not fear thee, O King of nations?—for to thee doth it appertain:
Forasmuch as among all the wise men of the nations,
And in all their kingdoms, there is none like unto thee.

. . . . . .

O Lord, I know that the way of man is not in himself:
It is not in man that walketh to direct his steps.
O Lord, correct me,—but with judgment;

Not in thine anger,—lest thou bring me to nothing.
Pour out thy fury upon the heathen that know thee not,
And upon the families that call not on thy name:
For they have eaten up Jacob,—and devoured him, and consumed him,
And have made his habitation desolate.

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PRAYER—LAM. iii. 55-66.

I CALLED upon thy name, O Lord, out of the low dungeon.
Thou hast heard my voice; hide not thine ear at my breathing, at my cry.
Thou drewest near in the day that I called upon thee: Thou saidst, Fear not.

O Lord, thou hast pleaded the causes of my soul; thou hast redeemed my life.
O Lord, thou hast seen my wrong; judge thou my cause.
Thou hast seen all their vengeance, and all their imaginations against me.

Thou hast heard their reproach, O Lord, and all their imaginations against me;
The lips of those that rose up against me, and their device against me all the day.
Behold their sitting down, and their rising up; I am their musick.

Render unto them a recompence, O Lord, according to the work of their hands.
Give them sorrow of heart, thy curse unto them.
Persecute and destroy them in anger from under the heavens of the Lord.

PROMISE—Ps. xxxvii. 35–40; Deut. xxxii. 43; Mal. iv. 2–3.

I have seen the wicked in great power,—and spreading himself like a green bay tree:
Yet he passed away, and, lo, he was not;—yea, I sought him, but he could not be found.
Mark the perfect man, and behold the upright:—for the end of that man is peace.
But the transgressors shall be destroyed together;—the end of the wicked shall be cut off.
But the salvation of the righteous is of the Lord;—he is their strength in the time of trouble.
And the Lord shall help them, and deliver them:
He shall deliver them from the wicked,—and save them, because they trust in him.

Rejoice, O ye nations, with his people;—for he will avenge the blood of his servants,
And will render vengeance to his adversaries,
And will be merciful unto his land, and to his people.

But unto you that fear my name
Shall the Sun of righteousness arise with healing in his wings;
And ye shall go forth, and grow up as calves of the stall.
And ye shall tread down the wicked;—for they shall be ashes under the soles of your feet,
In the day that I shall do this, saith the Lord of hosts.

## *Concerning the Dearth.*

Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.—*Matt.* iv. 4.

**Whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst.—*John* iv. 14.**

JER. xiv. 1, 2.

The word of the Lord that came to Jeremiah concerning the dearth.
Judah mourneth, and the gates thereof languish;
They are black unto the ground;—and the cry of Jerusalem is gone up. . . . .

PRAYER—*v.* 7, 19–22.

O LORD, though our iniquities testify against us,—do thou it for thy name's sake:
For our backslidings are many;—we have sinned against thee.
O the Hope of Israel, the Saviour thereof in time of trouble,
Why shouldest thou be as a stranger in the land,
And as a wayfaring man that turneth aside to tarry for a night?
Why shouldest thou be as a man astonied,—as a mighty man that cannot save?
Yet thou, O Lord, art in the midst of us,
And we are called by thy name;—leave us not.

. . . . . .

Hast thou utterly rejected Judah?—hath thy soul loathed Zion?
Why hast thou smitten us,—and there is no healing for us?
We looked for peace,—and there is no good;
And for the time of healing,—and behold trouble!
We acknowledge, O Lord, our wickedness,—and the iniquity of our fathers;
For we have sinned against thee.

Do not abhor us, for thy name's sake;—do not disgrace the throne of thy glory:
Remember, break not thy covenant with us.
Are there any among the vanities of the Gentiles that can cause rain?
Or can the heavens give showers?—art not thou he, O Lord our God?
Therefore we will wait upon thee;—for thou hast made all these things.

PROMISE—Ps. xxxiii. 18, 19.

Behold, the eye of the Lord is upon them that fear him,—upon them that hope in his mercy;
To deliver their soul from death,—and to keep them alive in famine.

## *When he had bought Hanameel's Field.*

I reckon, that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.—*Rom.* viii. 18.

JER. xxxii. 13.

I charged Baruch before them, saying, Thus saith the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel, Take these evidences, this evidence of the purchase, (both which is sealed,) and this evidence which is open, and put them in an earthen vessel, that they may continue many days: for thus saith the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel, Houses, and fields, and vineyards, shall be possessed again in this land. Now, when I had delivered the evidence of the purchase unto Baruch the *son of* Neriah, I prayed unto the Lord, saying,

PRAYER—*v.* 17.

AH Lord God! behold, thou hast made the heaven and the earth by thy great power and stretched-out arm, and there is nothing too hard for thee; thou showest loving-kindness unto thousands, and recompensest the iniquity of the fathers into the bosom of their children after them: the Great, the Mighty God, the Lord of hosts, is his name; great in counsel, and mighty in work: (for thine eyes are open upon all the ways of the sons of men: to give every one according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings:) which hast set signs and wonders in the land of Egypt, even unto this day, and in Israel, and among other men; and hast made thee a name, as at this day; and hast brought forth thy people Israel out of the land of Egypt with signs, and with wonders, and with a strong hand, and with a stretched-out arm, and with great terror; and hast given them this land, which thou didst swear to their fathers to give them, a land flowing with milk and honey; and they came in, and possessed it; but they obeyed not thy voice, neither walked in thy law: they have done nothing of all that thou commandest them to do; therefore thou hast caused all this evil to come upon them. Behold the mounts, they are come unto the city to take it; and the city is given into the hand of the Chaldeans that fight against it, because of the sword, and of the famine, and of the pestilence: and what thou hast spoken is come to pass; and, behold, thou seest it. And thou hast said unto me, O Lord God, Buy thee the field for money, and take witnesses; for the city is given into the hand of the Chaldeans.

ANSWER—*v.* 26; 36–44.

Then came the word of the Lord unto Jeremiah, saying, Behold, I am the Lord, the God of all flesh: is there anything too hard for me? Therefore thus saith the Lord, Behold, I will give this city into the hand of the Chaldeans, and into the hand of Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon, and he shall take it. . . . .

And now therefore thus saith the Lord, the God of Israel, concerning this city, whereof ye say, It shall be delivered into the hand of the king of Babylon, by the sword, and by the famine, and by the pestilence; behold, I will gather them out of all countries whither I have driven them in mine anger, and in my fury, and in great wrath; and I will bring them again unto this place, and I will cause them to dwell safely; and they shall be my people, and I will be their God: and I will give them one heart, and one way, that they may fear me for ever, for the good of them, and of their children after them: and I will make an everlasting covenant with them, that I will not turn away from them, to do them good; but I will put my fear in their hearts, that they shall not depart from me. Yea, I will rejoice over them to do them good, and I will plant them in this land assuredly with my whole heart, and with my whole soul. For thus saith the Lord, Like as I have brought all this great evil upon this people, so will I bring upon them all the good that I have promised them. And fields shall be bought in this land, whereof ye say, It is desolate without man or beast; it is given into the hand of the Chaldeans. Men shall buy fields for money, and subscribe evidences, and seal them, and take witnesses in the land of Ben-

jamin, and in the places about Jerusalem, and in the cities of Judah, and in the cities of the mountains, and in the cities of the valley, and in the cities of the south: for I will cause their captivity to return, saith the Lord.

PROMISE—Isa. lii. 9, 10; Ps. lxii. 11, 12.

Break forth into joy, sing together,—ye waste places of Jerusalem:
For the Lord hath comforted his people,—he hath redeemed Jerusalem.
The Lord hath made bare his holy arm in the eyes of all the nations;
And all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

God hath spoken once;—twice have I heard this,
That power belongeth unto God.
Also unto thee, O Lord, belongeth mercy:
For thou renderest to every man according to his work.

# EZEKIEL.

## *Interceding for the Remnant of Israel.*

Wherefore, we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear: for our God is a consuming fire.—*Heb.* xii. 28, 29.

Ezek. xi. 13. (See also chap. ix. 8.)

It came to pass, when I prophesied, that Pelatiah the son of Benaiah died: then fell I down upon my face, and cried with a loud voice, and said,

PRAYER.

AH Lord God! wilt thou make a full end of the remnant of Israel?

ANSWER [illegible] 21.

Again the word of the Lord came unto me, saying, Son of man, thy brethren, even thy brethren, the men of thy kindred, and all the house of Israel wholly, are they unto whom the inhabitants of Jerusalem have said, Get you far from the Lord; unto us is this land given in possession. Therefore say,

Thus saith the Lord God,—Although I have cast them far off among the heathen,
And although I have scattered them among the countries,
Yet will I be to them as a little sanctuary in the countries where they shall come.
Therefore say,—Thus saith the Lord God,
I will even gather you from the people,
And assemble you out of the countries where ye have been scattered,
And I will give you the land of Israel.
And they shall come thither,—and they shall take away all the detestable things thereof,
And all the abominations thereof, from thence.
And I will give them one heart,—and I will put a new spirit within you;
And I will take the stony heart out of their flesh,—and will give them an heart of flesh;
That they may walk in my statutes,—and keep mine ordinances, and do them:
And they shall be my people, and I will be their God.
But as for them whose heart walketh after

The heart of their detestable things and their abominations,
I will recompense their way upon their own heads,—saith the Lord God.

PROMISE—Isa. xli. 14.

Fear not, thou worm Jacob, and ye men of Israel:
I will help thee, saith the Lord,—and thy Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel.

# JERUSALEM.

## *Confessing her Sin and Bewailing her Desolation.*

O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not! Behold, your house is left unto you desolate. For I say unto you, Ye shall not see me henceforth, till ye shall say, Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.—*Matt.* xxiii. 37–39.

There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob: for this is my covenant unto them, when I shall take away their sins.—*Rom.* xi. 26, 27.

Lam. i. 1, 8, 9.

How doth the city sit solitary that was full of people!
How is she become as a widow! she that was great among the nations,
And princess among the provinces, how is she become tributary! . . . .

Jerusalem hath grievously sinned; therefore she is removed: . . . .

She remembereth not her last end;
Therefore she came down wonderfully: she had no comforter.

PRAYER—*v.* 9, 11, 20–22.

O LORD, behold my affliction; for the enemy hath magnified himself. . . . .

See, O Lord, and consider; for I am become vile. . . . .

Behold, O Lord, for I am in distress; my bowels are troubled;
Mine heart is turned within me; for I have grievously rebelled:
Abroad the sword bereaveth, at home there is as death.
They have heard that I sigh; there is none to comfort me:
All mine enemies have heard of my trouble; they are glad that thou hast done it:
Thou wilt bring the day that thou hast called, and they shall be like unto me.
Let all their wickedness come before thee;
And do unto them as thou hast done unto me for all my transgressions:
For my sighs are many, and my heart is faint.

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LAM. ii. 19.

Arise, cry out in the night; in the beginning of the watches
Pour out thine heart like water before the face of the Lord:

Lift up thy hands toward him for the life of thy young children,
That faint for hunger in the top of every street.

PRAYER—*v.* 20-22.

BEHOLD, O Lord, and consider to whom thou hast done this.
Shall the women eat their fruit, and children of a span long?
Shall the priest and the prophet be slain in the sanctuary of the Lord?
The young and the old lie on the ground in the streets:
My virgins and my young men are fallen by the sword:
Thou hast slain them in the day of thine anger; thou hast killed, and not pitied.
Thou hast called, as in a solemn day, my terrors round about;
So that in the day of the Lord's anger none escaped nor remained:
Those that I have swaddled and brought up hath mine enemy consumed.

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PRAYER—LAM. V.

REMEMBER, O Lord, what is come upon us:—consider, and behold our reproach.
Our inheritance is turned to strangers,—our houses to aliens.
We are orphans and fatherless,—our mothers are as widows.
We have drunken our water for money;—our wood is sold unto us.

Our necks are under persecution :—we labour, and have no rest.
We have given the hand to the Egyptians, and to the Assyrians,—to be satisfied with bread.
Our fathers have sinned, and are not ;—and we have borne their iniquities.
Servants have ruled over us :—there is none that doth deliver us out of their hand.
We gat our bread with the peril of our lives,—because of the sword of the wilderness.
Our skin was black like an oven,—because of the terrible famine.
They ravished the women in Zion,—and the maids in the cities of Judah.
Princes are hanged up by their hand :—the faces of elders were not honoured.
They took the young men to grind,—and the children fell under the wood.
The elders have ceased from the gate,—the young men from their musick.
The joy of our heart is ceased ;—our dance is turned into mourning.
The crown is fallen from our head :—woe unto us, that we have sinned !

v. 17. For this our heart is faint ;—for these things our eyes are dim.
Because of the mountain of Zion, which is desolate,—the foxes walk upon it.

v. 19. Thou, O Lord, remainest for ever ; thy throne from generation to generation.
Wherefore dost thou forget us for ever,—and forsake us so long time ?

Turn thou us unto thee, O Lord, and we shall be
turned;—renew our days as of old.
But thou hast utterly rejected us;—thou art very
wroth against us.

PROMISE—Isa. xlix. 14-23; Hos. ii. 14, 15.

Zion said, The Lord hath forsaken me,
And my Lord hath forgotten me.
Can a woman forget her sucking child,
That she should not have compassion on the son of her
womb?
Yea, they may forget,—yet will I not forget thee.
Behold, I have graven thee upon the palms of my hands;
Thy walls are continually before me.
Thy children shall make haste;
Thy destroyers, and they that made thee waste, shall
go forth of thee.
Lift up thine eyes round about, and behold:
All these gather themselves together, and come to thee.
As I live, saith the Lord,
Thou shalt surely clothe thee with them all, as with
an ornament,
And bind them on thee, as a bride doeth.
For thy waste and thy desolate places, and the land of
thy destruction,
Shall even now be too narrow by reason of the in-
habitants,
And they that swallowed thee up shall be far away.
The children which thou shalt have, after thou hast
lost the other,
Shall say again in thine ears, The place is too strait for
me:
Give place to me that I may dwell.

Then shalt thou say in thine heart,—Who hath begotten me these,
Seeing I have lost my children, and am desolate,
A captive, and removing to and fro? and who hath brought up these?
Behold, I was left alone; these, where had they been?
Thus saith the Lord God,
Behold, I will lift up mine hand to the Gentiles,—and set up my standard to the people:
And they shall bring thy sons in their arms,
And thy daughters shall be carried upon their shoulders.
And kings shall be thy nursing-fathers,—and their queens thy nursing-mothers:
They shall bow down to thee with their face toward the earth,
And lick up the dust of thy feet;
And thou shalt know that I am the Lord:—for they shall not be ashamed that wait for me.

Behold, I will allure her,
And bring her into the wilderness,—and speak comfortably unto her.
And I will give her her vineyards from thence,
And the valley of Achor for a door of hope:
And she shall sing there, as in the days of her youth,
And as in the day when she came up out of the land of Egypt.

## DANIEL.

### *Thanking God for revealing the King's Dream.*

Settle it therefore in your hearts, not to meditate before what ye shall answer: for I will give you a mouth and wisdom, which

all your adversaries shall not be able to gainsay nor resist.—*Luke* xxi. 14, 15.

DAN. ii. 16.

Daniel went in, and desired of the king that he would give him time, and that he would show the king the interpretation. Then Daniel went to his house, and made the thing known to Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah, his companions: that they would desire mercies of the God of heaven concerning this secret; that Daniel and his fellows should not perish with the rest of the wise men of Babylon. Then was the secret revealed unto Daniel in a night vision. Then Daniel blessed the God of heaven. Daniel answered and said,

PRAYER—*v.* 20–23.

BLESSED be the name of God for ever and ever:—
for wisdom and might are his:
And he changeth the times and the seasons:—he removeth kings, and setteth up kings:
He giveth wisdom unto the wise,—and knowledge to them that know understanding:
He revealeth the deep and secret things:
He knoweth what is in the darkness,—and the light dwelleth with him.
I thank thee, and praise thee, O thou God of my fathers,
Who hast given me wisdom and might,
And hast made known unto me now what we desired of thee:
For thou hast now made known unto us the king's matter.

PROMISE—ISA. xlii. 16.

I will bring the blind by a way that they knew not;

I will lead them in paths that they have not known:
I will make darkness light before them,—and crooked things straight.
These things will I do unto them, and not forsake them.

## *Seeking with Confession the Restoration of Jerusalem.*

**When he was come near, he beheld the city, and wept over it.—*Luke* xix. 41.**

DAN. ix. 1, 2.

In the first year of Darius, . . . . I Daniel understood by books the number of the years, whereof the word of the Lord came to Jeremiah the prophet, that he would accomplish seventy years in the desolations of Jerusalem. And I set my face unto the Lord God, to seek by prayer and supplications, with fasting, and sackcloth, and ashes: And I prayed unto the Lord my God, and made my confession, and said,

PRAYER—*v.* 4.

O LORD, the great and dreadful God, keeping the covenant and mercy to them that love him, and to them that keep his commandments; we have sinned, and have committed iniquity, and have done wickedly, and have rebelled, even by departing from thy precepts, and from thy judgments: neither have we hearkened unto thy servants the prophets, which spake in thy name to our kings, our princes, and our fathers, and to all the people of the land. O Lord, righteous*ness belong*eth unto thee, but unto us confusion of faces,

as at this day; to the men of Judah, and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and unto all Israel, that are near, and that are far off, through all the countries whither thou hast driven them, because of their trespass that they have trespassed against thee. O Lord, to us belongeth confusion of face, to our kings, to our princes, and to our fathers, because we have sinned against thee. To the Lord our God belong mercies and forgivenesses, though we have rebelled against him; neither have we obeyed the voice of the Lord our God, to walk in his laws, which he set before us by his servants the prophets. Yea, all Israel have transgressed thy law, even by departing, that they might not obey thy voice; therefore the curse is poured upon us, and the oath that is written in the law of Moses the servant of God, because we have sinned against him. And he hath confirmed his words, which he spake against us, and against our judges that judged us, by bringing upon us a great evil: for under the whole heaven hath not been done as hath been done upon Jerusalem. As it is written in the law of Moses, all this evil is come upon us: yet made we not our prayer before the Lord our God, that we might turn from our iniquities, and understand thy truth. Therefore hath the Lord watched upon the evil, and brought it upon us: for the Lord our God is righteous in all his works which he doeth: for we obeyed not his voice.

*v.* 15. And now, O Lord our God, that hast brought thy people forth out of the land of Egypt with a mighty hand, and hast gotten thee renown, as at this day; we have sinned, we have done wickedly. O Lord, according to all thy righteousness, I beseech thee, let thine anger and thy fury be turned away from thy city Jeru-

salem thy holy mountain: because for our sins, and for the iniquities of our fathers, Jerusalem and thy people are become a reproach to all that are about us.
*v.* 17. Now therefore, O our God, hear the prayer of thy servant, and his supplications, and cause thy face to shine upon thy sanctuary that is desolate, for the Lord's sake. O my God, incline thine ear, and hear; open thine eyes, and behold our desolations, and the city which is called by thy name: for we do not present our supplications before thee for our righteousnesses, but for thy great mercies. O Lord, hear; O Lord, forgive; O Lord, hearken and do; defer not, for thine own sake, O my God: for thy city and thy people are called by thy name.

ANSWER—*v.* 20-23.

And whiles I was speaking, and praying, and confessing my sin, and the sin of my people Israel, and presenting my supplication before the Lord my God for the holy mountain of my God; yea, whiles I was speaking in prayer, even the man Gabriel, whom I had seen in the vision at the beginning, being caused to fly swiftly, touched me about the time of the evening oblation. And he informed me, and talked with me, and said, O Daniel, I am now come forth to give thee skill and understanding. At the beginning of thy supplications the commandment came forth, and I am come to shew thee; for thou art greatly beloved: therefore uuderstand the matter, and consider the vision.

PROMISE—Ps. cxxii. 6-9; Isa. li. 3.

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem:—they shall prosper that love thee.

Peace be within thy walls,—and prosperity within thy palaces.
For my brethren and companions' sakes,—I will now say, Peace be within thee.
Because of the house of the Lord our God—I will seek thy good.

The Lord shall comfort Zion:—he will comfort all her waste places;
And he will make her wilderness like Eden,—and her desert like the garden of the Lord;
Joy and gladness shall be found therein,—thanksgiving, and the voice of melody.

## *For Understanding of the Times.*

**Of the times and the seasons, brethren, ye have no need that I write unto you. For yourselves know perfectly, that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night.—1 *Thess.* v. 1, 2.**

DAN. xii. 7.

I heard the man clothed in linen, which was upon the waters of the river, when he held up his right hand and his left hand unto heaven, and sware by him that liveth for ever, that it shall be for a time, times, and an half; and when he shall have accomplished to scatter the power of the holy people, all these things shall be finished. And I heard, but I understood not: then said I,

PRAYER—*v.* 8.

O MY lord, what shall be the end of these things?

ANSWER—*v.* 9-13.

And he said, Go thy way, Daniel: for the words are

closed up and sealed till the time of the end. Many shall be purified, and made white, and tried; but the wicked shall do wickedly: and none of the wicked shall understand; but the wise shall understand. And from the time that the daily sacrifice shall be taken away, and the abomination that maketh desolate set up, there shall be a thousand two hundred and ninety days. Blessed is he that waiteth, and cometh to the thousand three hundred and five and thirty days. But go thou thy way till the end be: for thou shalt rest, and stand in thy lot at the end of the days.

PROMISE—Hos. vi. 3.

Then shall we know, if we follow on to know the Lord:
His going forth is prepared as the morning;
And he shall come unto us as the rain,—as the latter and former rain unto the earth.

# THE ANGEL OF THE LORD.

## *Interceding for Jerusalem and the Cities of Judah.*

It is Christ that . . . . maketh intercession for us.—*Rom.* viii. 34.

ZECH. i. 8, 10.

I saw by night, and behold a man riding upon a red horse, and he stood among the myrtle trees that were in the bottom; and behind him were there red horses, speckled, and white. . . . . These are they whom the Lord hath sent to walk to and fro through the earth. And they answered the angel of the Lord that stood among the myrtle trees, and said, We have

walked to and fro through the earth, and, behold, all the earth sitteth still, and is at rest. Then the angel of the Lord answered and said,

PRAYER—*v.* 12.

O LORD of hosts, how long wilt thou not have mercy on Jerusalem, and on the cities of Judah, against which thou hast had indignation these threescore and ten years?

ANSWER—*v.* 13–17.

And the Lord answered the angel that talked with me with good words, and comfortable words. So the angel that communed with me said unto me, Cry thou, saying,

Thus saith the Lord of hosts,
I am jealous for Jerusalem and for Zion with a great jealousy.
And I am very sore displeased with the heathen that are at ease:
For I was but a little displeased,—and they helped forward the affliction.
Therefore thus saith the Lord,—I am returned to Jerusalem with mercies:
My house shall be built in it, saith the Lord of hosts,
And a line shall be stretched forth upon Jerusalem.
Cry yet, saying, Thus saith the Lord of hosts,
My cities through prosperity shall yet be spread abroad;
And the Lord shall yet comfort Zion,—and shall yet choose Jerusalem.

PROMISE—Hos. xiii. 9, 14.

O Israel, thou hast destroyed thyself;—but in me is thine help. . . . .
I will ransom them from the power of the grave;—I will redeem them from death:
O death, I will be thy plagues;—O grave, I will be thy destruction:
Repentance shall be hid from mine eyes.

# EZRA.

## *Confessing the People's Sin in Mingling with the Heathen.*

Come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, and will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty.—2 *Cor.* vi. 17, 18.

EZRA ix. 1, 3.

The princes came to me, saying, The people of Israel, and the priests, and the Levites, have not separated themselves from the people of the lands, doing according to their abominations. . . . . And when I heard this thing, I rent my garment and my mantle, and plucked off the hair of my head and of my beard, and sat down astonied. Then were assembled unto me every one that trembled at the words of the God of Israel, because of the transgression of those that had been carried away; and I sat astonied until the evening sacrifice. And at the evening sacrifice I arose up from my heaviness; and, having rent my garment and my mantle, I fell upon my knees, and spread out my *hands* unto the Lord my God, and said,

PRAYER—*v.* 6–15.

O MY God, I am ashamed and blush to lift up my face to thee, my God: for our iniquities are increased over our head, and our trespass is grown up unto the heavens. Since the days of our fathers have we been in a great trespass unto this day; and for our iniquities have we, our kings, and our priests, been delivered into the hand of the kings of the lands, to the sword, to captivity, and to a spoil, and to confusion of face, as it is this day. And now for a little space grace hath been showed from the Lord our God, to leave us a remnant to escape, and to give us a nail in his holy place, that our God may lighten our eyes, and give us a little reviving in our bondage. For we were bondmen; yet our God hath not forsaken us in our bondage, but hath extended mercy unto us in the sight of the kings of Persia, to give us a reviving, to set up the house of our God, and to repair the desolations thereof, and to give us a wall in Judah and in Jerusalem. And now, O our God, what shall we say after this? for we have forsaken thy commandments, which thou hast commanded by thy servants the prophets, saying, The land, unto which ye go to possess it, is an unclean land with the filthiness of the people of the lands, with their abominations, which have filled it from one end to another with their uncleanness. Now therefore give not your daughters unto their sons, neither take their daughters unto your sons, nor seek their peace or their wealth for ever; that ye may be strong, and eat the good of the land, and leave it for an inheritance to your children for ever. And after all that is come upon us for our evil deeds, and for our great trespass, seeing that thou our God hast punished us less than our

iniquities deserve, and hast given us such deliverance as this; should we again break thy commandments, and join in affinity with the people of these abominations? wouldest not thou be angry with us till thou hadst consumed us, so that there should be no remnant nor escaping? O Lord God of Israel, thou art righteous; for we remain yet escaped, as it is this day: behold, we are before thee in our trespasses: for we cannot stand before thee because of this.

ANSWER—Chap. x. 1, 19.

Now, when Ezra had prayed, and when he had confessed, weeping and casting himself down before the house of God, there assembled unto him out of Israel a very great congregation of men, and women, and children: for the people wept very sore. . . . . And they gave their hands that they would put away their wives; and, being guilty, they offered a ram of the flock for their trespass.

PROMISE—Ps. cxix. 1, 2; 2 Chron. xxx. 9.

Blessed are the undefiled in the way,—who walk in the law of the Lord.
Blessed are they that keep his testimonies,—and that seek him with the whole heart.

The Lord your God is gracious and merciful, and will not turn away his face from you, if ye return unto him.

# NEHEMIAH.

## *On hearing Evil Tidings of Jerusalem.*

**If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.—*John* xv. 7.**

NEH. i. 1.

It came to pass in the month Chisleu, in the twentieth year, as I was in Shushan the palace, that Hanani, one of my brethren, came, he and certain men of Judah; and I asked them concerning the Jews that had escaped, which were left of the captivity, and concerning Jerusalem. And they said unto me, The remnant that are left of the captivity there in the province are in great affliction and reproach: the wall of Jerusalem also is broken down, and the gates thereof are burnt with fire. And it came to pass, when I heard these words, that I sat down and wept, and mourned certain days, and fasted, and prayed before the God of heaven, and said,

PRAYER—*v.* 5.

I BESEECH thee, O Lord God of heaven, the great and terrible God, that keepeth covenant and mercy for them that love him, and observe his commandments: let thine ear now be attentive, and thine eyes open, that thou mayest hear the prayer of thy servant, which I pray before thee now, day and night, for the children of Israel thy servants, and confess the sins of the children of Israel, which we have sinned against thee: both I and my father's house have sinned. We have dealt very corruptly against thee, and have not kept the commandments, nor the statutes, nor the judg-

ments, which thou commandedst thy servant Moses. Remember, I beseech thee, the word that thou commandedst thy servant Moses, saying, If ye transgress, I will scatter you abroad among the nations: but if ye turn unto me, and keep my commandments, and do them, though there were of you cast out unto the uttermost part of the heaven, yet will I gather them from thence, and will bring them unto the place that I have chosen to set my name there. Now these are thy servants, and thy people, whom thou hast redeemed by thy great power, and by thy strong hand. O Lord, I beseech thee, let now thine ear be attentive to the prayer of thy servant, and to the prayer of thy servants, who desire to fear thy name; and prosper, I pray thee, thy servant this day, and grant him mercy in the sight of this man.

ANSWER—*v.* 11; chap. ii. 1, 8.

For I was the king's cup-bearer. And it came to pass in the month Nisan, in the twentieth year of Artaxerxes the king, that wine was before him; and I took up the wine, and gave it unto the king. Now I had not been beforetime sad in his presence. Wherefore the king said unto me, Why is thy countenance sad, seeing thou art not sick? this is nothing else but sorrow of heart. Then I was very sore afraid, and said unto the king, Let the king live for ever: why should not my countenance be sad, when the city, the place of my fathers' sepulchres, lieth waste, and the gates thereof are consumed with fire? Then the king said unto me, For what dost thou make request? So I prayed to the God of heaven. . . . . And the king *granted me,* according to the good hand of my God *upon me.*

PROMISE—Ps. cxxvi. 5, 6.

They that sow in tears—shall reap in joy.
He that goeth forth and weepeth,—bearing precious seed,
Shall doubtless come again with rejoicing,—bringing his sheaves with him.

## *While Building the Wall of Jerusalem.*

Who is he that will harm you, if ye be followers of that which is good?—1 *Peter* iii. 13.

Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.—1 *Cor.* xv. 58.

NEH. iv. 1.

It came to pass, that when Sanballat heard that we builded the wall, he was wroth, and took great indignation, and mocked the Jews. And he spake before his brethren and the army of Samaria, and said, What do these feeble Jews? will they fortify themselves? will they sacrifice? will they make an end in a day? will they revive the stones out of the heaps of the rubbish which are burnt? Now Tobiah the Ammonite was by him; and he said, Even that which they build, if a fox go up, he shall even break down their stone wall.

PRAYER—*v.* 4.

HEAR, O our God; for we are despised: and turn their reproach upon their own head, and give them for a prey in the land of captivity; and cover not their iniquity, and let not their sin be blotted out from before thee: for they have provoked thee to anger before the builders.

*v.* 6; chap. vi. 1, 9.

So built we the wall; and all the wall was joined together unto the half thereof: for the people had a mind to work.

. . . . .

Now it came to pass, when Sanballat, and Tobiah, and Geshem the Arabian, and the rest of our enemies, heard that I had builded the wall, and that there was no breach left therein, (though at that time I had not set up the doors upon the gates), . . . . they all made us afraid, saying, Their hands shall be weakened from the work, that it be not done.

PRAYER—*v.* 9, 14.

NOW therefore, O God, strengthen my hands.

. . . . .

My God, think thou upon Tobiah and Sanballat according to these their works, and on the prophetess Noadiah, and the rest of the prophets, that would have put me in fear.

ANSWER—*v.* 15, 16.

So the wall was finished in the twenty and fifth day of the month Elul, in fifty and two days. And it came to pass, that when all our enemies heard thereof, and all the heathen that were about us saw these things, they were much cast down in their own eyes: for they perceived that this work was wrought of our God.

PROMISE—Isa. iii. 10; Nah. i, 7.

Say ye to the righteous, that it shall be well with him;
For they shall eat the fruit of their doings.

The Lord is good, a stronghold in the day of trouble;
And he knoweth them that trust in him.

## *That God would remember his Services.*

**God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labour of love, which ye have showed toward his name, in that ye have ministered to the saints.—*Heb.* vi. 10.**

**Whosoever shall give to drink unto one of these little ones a cup of cold water only in the name of a disciple, verily I say unto you, he shall in no wise lose his reward.—*Matt.* x. 42.**

NEH. v. 15, 18.

The former governors, that had been before me, were chargeable unto the people, and had taken of them bread and wine, besides forty shekels of silver; yea, even their servants bare rule over the people: but so did not I, because of the fear of God. Yea, also I continued in the work of this wall, neither bought we any land: and all my servants were gathered thither unto the work. Moreover, there were at my table an hundred and fifty of the Jews and rulers, besides those that came unto us from among the heathen that are about us. . . . . Yet for all this required not I the bread of the governor, because the bondage was heavy upon this people.

PRAYER—*v.* 19.

THINK upon me, my God, for good, according to all that I have done for this people.

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NEH. xiii. 10, 13.

I perceived that the portions of the Levites had not been given them: for the Levites and the singers, that did the work, were fled every one to his field. Then contended I with the rulers, and said, Why is the house

of God forsaken? And I gathered them together, and set them in their place. Then brought all Judah the tithe of the corn, and the new wine, and the oil, unto the treasuries. And I made treasurers over the treasuries; . . . . and their office was to distribute unto their brethren.

PRAYER—*v.* 14.

REMEMBER me, O my God, concerning this, and wipe not out my good deeds that I have done for the house of my God, and for the offices thereof.

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Neh. xiii. 15, 22.

In those days saw I in Judah some treading wine-presses on the Sabbath, and bringing in sheaves, and lading asses; as also wine, grapes, and figs, and all manner of burdens, which they brought into Jerusalem on the Sabbath-day: and I testified against them in the day wherein they sold victuals. . . . . And I commanded the Levites, that they should cleanse themselves, and that they should come and keep the gates, to sanctify the Sabbath-day.

PRAYER—*v.* 22.

REMEMBER me, O my God, concerning this also, and spare me according to the greatness of thy mercy.

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Neh. xiii. 23, 28.

In those days also saw I Jews that had married wives of Ashdod, of Ammon, and of Moab: and their children spake half in the speech of Ashdod, and could not speak in the Jews' language, but according to the lan-

guage of each people. And I contended with them, and cursed them, and smote certain of them, and plucked off their hair, and made them swear by God, saying, Ye shall not give your daughters unto their sons, nor take their daughters unto your sons, or for yourselves. . . . . And one of the sons of Joiada, the son of Eliashib the high priest, was son-in-law to Sanballat the Horonite: therefore I chased him from me.

PRAYER—*v.* 29.

REMEMBER them, O my God, because they have defiled the priesthood, and the covenant of the priesthood, and of the Levites.

*v.* 30, 31.

Thus cleansed I them from all strangers, and appointed the wards of the priests and the Levites, every one in his business; and for the wood-offering, at times appointed, and for the first-fruits.

PRAYER—*v.* 31.

REMEMBER me, O my God, for good.

PROMISE—Ps. cxii. 5–9.

A good man sheweth favour, and lendeth:—he will guide his affairs with discretion.
Surely he shall not be moved for ever:—the righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance.
He shall not be afraid of evil tidings:—his heart is fixed, trusting in the Lord.
His heart is established, he shall not be afraid,—until he see his desire upon his enemies.
He hath dispersed, he hath given to the poor;

His righteousness endureth for ever;—his horn shall be exalted with honour.

# THE LEVITES.

## *Before the Sealing of the Covenant.*

The foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, The Lord knoweth them that are his. And, let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity.—2 *Tim.* ii. 19.

NEH. ix. 1.

Now in the twenty and fourth day of this month, the children of Israel were assembled with fasting, and with sackclothes, and earth upon them. And the seed of Israel separated themselves from all strangers, and stood and confessed their sins, and the iniquities of their fathers. And they stood up in their place, and read in the book of the law of the Lord their God one fourth part of the day; and another fourth part they confessed, and worshipped the Lord their God. Then stood up upon the stairs, of the Levites, Jeshua, and Bani, Kadmiel, Shebaniah, Bunni, Sherebiah, Bani, and Chenani, and cried with a loud voice unto the Lord their God. Then the Levites, Jeshua, and Kadmiel, Bani, Hashabniah, Sherebiah, Hodijah, Shebaniah, and Pethahiah, said,

PRAYER—*v.* 5–38.

STAND up and bless the Lord your God for ever and ever; and blessed be thy glorious name, which is exalted above all blessing and praise. Thou, even thou, art Lord alone: thou hast made heaven, the heaven of heavens, with all their host, the earth, and

all things that are therein, the seas, and all that is therein, and thou preservest them all; and the host of heaven worshippeth thee.

v. 7. Thou art the Lord the God, who didst choose Abram, and broughtest him forth out of Ur of the Chaldees, and gavest him the name of Abraham: and foundest his heart faithful before thee, and madest a covenant with him, to give the land of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, and the Perizzites, and the Jebusites, and the Girgashites, to give it, I say, to his seed, and hast performed thy words; for thou art righteous:

v. 9. And didst see the affliction of our fathers in Egypt, and heardest their cry by the Red sea: and showedst signs and wonders upon Pharaoh, and on all his servants, and on all the people of his land; for thou knewest that they dealt proudly against them: so didst thou get thee a name, as it is this day. And thou didst divide the sea before them, so that they went through the midst of the sea on the dry land: and their persecutors thou threwest into the deeps, as a stone into the mighty waters. Moreover, thou leddest them in the day by a cloudy pillar, and in the night by a pillar of fire, to give them light in the way wherein they should go. Thou camest down also upon mount Sinai, and spakest with them from heaven, and gavest them right judgments and true laws, good statutes and commandments: and madest known unto them thy holy sabbath, and commandedst them precepts, statutes, and laws, by the hand of Moses thy servant: and gavest them bread from heaven for their hunger, and broughtest forth water for them out of the rock for their thirst, and promisedst them that they should

go in to possess the land which thou hadst sworn to give them.

v. 16. But they and our fathers dealt proudly, and hardened their necks, and hearkened not to thy commandments, and refused to obey, neither were mindful of thy wonders that thou didst among them; but hardened their necks, and in their rebellion appointed a captain to return to their bondage: but thou art a God ready to pardon, gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and forsookest them not. Yea, when they had made them a molten calf, and said, This is thy god that brought thee up out of Egypt, and had wrought great provocations; yet thou, in thy manifold mercies, forsookest them not in the wilderness: the pillar of the cloud departed not from them by day, to lead them in the way; neither the pillar of fire by night, to show them light, and the way wherein they should go. Thou gavest also thy good spirit to instruct them, and withheldest not thy manna from their mouth, and gavest them water for their thirst. Yea, forty years didst thou sustain them in the wilderness, so that they lacked nothing: their clothes waxed not old, and their feet swelled not. Moreover, thou gavest them kingdoms and nations, and didst divide them into corners: so they possessed the land of Sihon, and the land of the king of Heshbon, and the land of Og king of Bashan. Their children also multipliedst thou as the stars of heaven, and broughtest them into the land concerning which thou hadst promised to their fathers, that they should go in to possess it. So the children went in and possessed the land, and thou subduedst before them the inhabitants of the land, the Canaanites, and gavest them into their hands, with their kings, and the people

of the land, that they might do with them as they would. And they took strong cities, and a fat land, and possessed houses full of all goods, wells digged, vineyards, and oliveyards, and fruit trees in abundance: so they did eat, and were filled, and became fat, and delighted themselves in thy great goodness.

v. 26. Nevertheless they were disobedient, and rebelled against thee, and cast thy law behind their backs, and slew thy prophets, which testified against them to turn them to thee; and they wrought great provocations. Therefore thou deliveredst them into the hand of their enemies, who vexed them: and in the time of their trouble, when they cried unto thee, thou heardest them from heaven; and, according to thy manifold mercies, thou gavest them saviours, who saved them out of the hand of their enemies. But after they had rest, they did evil again before thee: therefore leftest thou them in the hand of their enemies, so that they had the dominion over them: yet when they returned, and cried unto thee, thou heardest them from heaven; and many times didst thou deliver them, according to thy mercies; and testifiedst against them, that thou mightest bring them again unto thy law; yet they dealt proudly, and hearkened not unto thy commandments, but sinned against thy judgments, (which if a man do, he shall live in them,) and withdrew the shoulder, and hardened their neck, and would not hear: yet many years didst thou forbear them, and testifiedst against them by thy Spirit in thy prophets: yet would they not give ear: therefore gavest thou them into the hand of the people of the lands. Nevertheless, for thy great mercies' sake, thou didst not utterly consume them, nor forsake them: for thou art a gracious and merciful God.

v. 32. Now therefore, our God, the great, the mighty, and the terrible God, who keepest covenant and mercy, let not all the trouble seem little before thee that hath come upon us, on our kings, on our princes, and on our priests, and on our prophets, and on our fathers, and on all thy people, since the time of the kings of Assyria unto this day. Howbeit thou art just in all that is brought upon us; for thou hast done right, but we have done wickedly: neither have our kings, our princes, our priests, nor our fathers, kept thy law, nor hearkened unto thy commandments, and thy testimonies, wherewith thou didst testify against them. For they have not served thee in their kingdom, and in thy great goodness that thou gavest them, and in the large and fat land which thou gavest before them, neither turned they from their wicked works. Behold, we are servants this day; and for the land that thou gavest unto our fathers, to eat the fruit thereof, and the good thereof, behold, we are servants in it: and it yieldeth much increase unto the kings whom thou hast set over us because of our sins: also they have dominion over our bodies, and over our cattle, at their pleasure; and we are in great distress.

v. 38. And because of all this we make a sure covenant, and write it; and our princes, Levites, and priests, seal unto it.

PROMISE—Jer. xxxi. 31-34.

Behold, the days come, saith the Lord,
That I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel, and with the house of Judah;
Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers

In the day that I took them by the hand, to bring
them out of the land of Egypt;
Which my covenant they brake,—although I was an
husband unto them, saith the Lord:
But this shall be the covenant that I will make with
the house of Israel;
After those days, saith the Lord,
I will put my law in their inward parts,—and write it
in their hearts;
And will be their God,—and they shall be my people.
And they shall teach no more every man his neighbour,
and every man his brother,
Saying, Know the Lord:
For they shall all know me,—from the least of them
unto the greatest of them, saith the Lord:
For I will forgive their iniquity,—and I will remember
their sin no more.

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# THE LORD JESUS CHRIST.

Surely he hath borne our griefs,—and carried our sorrows:
Yet we did esteem him stricken,—smitten of God, and afflicted.
But he was wounded for our transgressions,—he was bruised for our iniquities:
The chastisement of our peace was upon him:—and with his stripes we are healed.
All we, like sheep, have gone astray;—we have turned every one to his own way;
And the Lord hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.
He was oppressed, and he was afflicted;—yet he opened not his mouth:
He is brought as a lamb to the slaughter,
And as a sheep before her shearers is dumb,—so he openeth not his mouth.
He was taken from prison and from judgment:
And who shall declare his generation?
For he was cut off out of the land of the living:
For the transgression of my people was he stricken.
And he made his grave with the wicked,—and with the rich in his death;
Because he had done no violence,—neither was any deceit in his mouth.
Yet it pleased the Lord to bruise him;—he hath put him to grief:
When thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin,
He shall see his seed, he shall prolong his days,
And the pleasure of the Lord shall prosper in his hand.
He shall see of the travail of his soul, and shall be satisfied:
By his knowledge shall my righteous servant justify many;
For he shall bear their iniquities.
Therefore will I divide him a portion with the great,
And he shall divide the spoil with the strong;
Because he hath poured out his soul unto death;
And he was numbered with the transgressors;—and he bare the sin of many,
And made intercession for the transgressors.—*Isa.* liii. 4–12.

## *Thanksgiving concerning the Simple.*

The Lord God hath given me the tongue of the learned,
That I should know how to speak a word in season to him that is weary:
He wakeneth morning by morning;
*He wakeneth* mine ear to hear as the learned.—*Isa.* l. 4.

MATT. xi. 25.

At that time Jesus answered and said,

PRAYER.

I THANK thee, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because thou hast hid these things from the wise and prudent, and hast revealed them unto babes. Even so, Father; for so it seemed good in thy sight.

*v.* 27.

All things are delivered unto me of my Father: and no man knoweth the Son, but the Father; neither knoweth any man the Father, save the Son, and he to whomsoever the Son will reveal him.

PROMISE—*v.* 28–30.

Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

## *At the Raising of Lazarus.*

The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me;
Because the Lord hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek:
He hath sent me to bind up the broken-hearted,
To proclaim liberty to the captives,—and the opening of the prison to them that are bound.—*Isa.* lxi. 1.

JOHN xi. 41.

They took away the stone from the place where the dead was laid. And Jesus lifted up his eyes, and said,

PRAYER.

FATHER, I thank thee that thou hast heard me. And I knew that thou hearest me always: but because of the people which stand by I said it, that they may believe that thou hast sent me.

ANSWER—*v.* 43, 44.

And when he thus had spoken, he cried with a loud voice, Lazarus, come forth. And he that was dead came forth, bound hand and foot with grave-clothes; and his face was bound about with a napkin. Jesus saith unto them, Loose him, and let him go.

PROMISE—*v.* 25, 26.

I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: and whosoever liveth, and believeth in me, shall never die. Believest thou this?

## *After Foretelling his Death.*

Sacrifice and offering thou didst not desire;—mine ears hast thou opened:
Burnt-offering and sin-offering hast thou not required.
Then said I, Lo, I come:—in the volume of the book it is written of me,
I delight to do thy will, O my God;—yea, thy law is within my heart.—*Ps.* xl. 6–8.

JOHN xii. 24.

Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit. He that loveth his life shall lose it; and he that *hateth* his life in this world shall keep it unto life

eternal. If any man serve me, let him follow me; and where I am, there shall also my servant be: if any man serve me, him will my Father honour. Now is my soul troubled; and what shall I say?

PRAYER—*v.* 27.

FATHER, save me from this hour: but for this cause came I unto this hour. Father, glorify thy name.

ANSWER—*v.* 28.

Then came there a voice from heaven, saying, I have both glorified it, and will glorify it again.

PROMISE—ROM. viii. 32.

He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?

## *After the Supper.*

Thus saith the Lord,
In an acceptable time have I heard thee,—and in a day of salvation have I helped thee;
And I will preserve thee, and give thee for a covenant of the the people,
To establish the earth, to cause to inherit the desolate heritages:
That thou mayest say to the prisoners, Go forth;
To them that are in darkness, Show yourselves.
They shall feed in the ways,—and their pastures shall be in all high places.—*Isa.* xlix. 8, 9.

JOHN xvi. 31.

Jesus answered them, Do ye now believe? Behold, the hour cometh, yea, is now come, that ye shall be scattered, every man to his own, and shall leave me

alone: and yet I am not alone, because the Father is with me. These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world. These words spake Jesus, and lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said,

PRAYER—chap. xvii.

FATHER, the hour is come; glorify thy Son, that thy Son also may glorify thee: as thou hast given him power over all flesh, that he should give eternal life to as many as thou hast given him. And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent. I have glorified thee on the earth: I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do. And now, O Father, glorify thou me with thine own self with the glory which I had with thee before the world was.

*v.* 6. I have manifested thy name unto the men which thou gavest me out of the world: thine they were, and thou gavest them me; and they have kept thy word. Now they have known that all things, whatsoever thou hast given me are of thee: for I have given unto them the words which thou gavest me; and they have received them, and have known surely that I came out from thee, and they have believed that thou didst send me. I pray for them: I pray not for the world, but for them which thou hast given me; for they are thine. And all mine are thine, and thine are mine; and I am glorified in them. And now I am no more in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to thee. Holy Father, *keep* through thine own name those whom thou hast

given me, that they may be one, as we are. While I was with them in the world, I kept them in thy name: those that thou gavest me I have kept, and none of them is lost, but the son of perdition; that the Scripture might be fulfilled. And now come I to thee; and these things I speak in the world, that they might have my joy fulfilled in themselves.

v. 14. I have given them thy word: and the world hath hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that thou shouldest keep them from the evil. They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth. As thou hast sent me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify myself, that they also might be sanctified through the truth.

v. 20. Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word; that they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me. And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one: I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as thou hast loved me.

v. 24. Father, I will that they also whom thou hast given me be with me where I am; that they may behold my glory, which thou hast given me: for thou lovedst me before the foundation of the world. O righteous Father, the world hath not known thee: but

I have known thee, and these have known that thou hast sent me. And I have declared unto them thy name, and will declare it; that the love wherewith thou hast loved me may be in them, and I in them.

PROMISE—Rom. viii. 35, 38, 39.

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? . . . . I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

## *In the Garden of Gethsemane.*

The Lord God hath opened mine ear,
And I was not rebellious,—neither turned away back.
I gave my back to the smiters,—and my cheeks to them that plucked off the hair:
I hid not my face from shame and spitting.—*Isa.* l. 5, 6.

MATT. xxvi. 36.

Then cometh Jesus with them unto a place called Gethsemane, and saith unto the disciples, Sit ye here, while I go and pray yonder. And he took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and began to be sorrowful and very heavy. Then saith he unto them, My soul is exceeding sorrowful, even unto death: tarry ye here, and watch with me. And he went a little farther, and fell on his face, and prayed, saying,

PRAYER—*v.* 39.

O MY Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from *me*: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt.

LUKE xxii. 43, 44; MATT. xxvi. 40.

And there appeared an angel unto him from heaven, strengthening him. And, being in an agony, he prayed more earnestly: and his sweat was as it were great drops of blood falling down to the ground.

And he cometh unto the disciples, and findeth them asleep, and saith unto Peter, What! could ye not watch with me one hour? Watch and pray, that ye not enter into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak. He went away again the second time, and prayed, saying,

PRAYER—*v.* 42.

O MY Father, if this cup may not pass away from me, except I drink it, thy will be done.

*v.* 43–46.

And he came and found them asleep again: for their eyes were heavy. And he left them, and went away again, and prayed the third time, saying the same words. Then cometh he to his disciples, and saith unto them, Sleep on now, and take your rest: behold, the hour is at hand, and the Son of man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Rise, let us be going: behold, he is at hand that doth betray me.

PROMISE—JOHN iii. 14, 15; ROM. v. 19.

As Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up; that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life.

For as by one man's disobedience many were made

sinners; so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous.

## *During the Crucifixion.*

Is it nothing to you, all ye that pass by?
Behold, and see if there be any sorrow like unto my sorrow, which is done unto me,
Wherewith the Lord hath afflicted me in the day of his fierce anger.
From above hath he sent fire into my bones, and it prevaileth against them:
He hath spread a net for my feet; he hath turned me back;
He hath made me desolate and faint all the day.—*Lam.* i. 12, 13.

LUKE xxiii. 33.

When they were come to the place which is called Calvary, there they crucified him, and the malefactors; one on the right hand, and the other on the left. Then said Jesus,

PRAYER—*v.* 34.

FATHER, forgive them; for they know not what they do.

*v.* 34; MATT. xxvii. 45.

And they parted his raiment and cast lots. . . . .

Now from the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land unto the ninth hour. And about the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, saying, . . . .

PRAYER—*v.* 46.

MY God! my God! why hast thou forsaken me?

LUKE xxiii. 46; MATT. xxvii. 51–53.

And when Jesus had cried with a loud voice, he said,

PRAYER—*v.* 46.

FATHER, into thy hands I commend my spirit:

And having said thus, he gave up the ghost.

And, behold, the vail of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom; and the earth did quake, and the rocks rent; and the graves were opened; and many bodies of the saints which slept arose, and came out of the graves after his resurrection, and went into the holy city, and appeared unto many.

PROMISE—JOHN i. 29; 2 COR. v. 21; JOHN iii. 16.

Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world!

He hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

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# THE PETITIONS MADE TO THE LORD WHEN ON EARTH.

Behold my servant, whom I uphold;—mine elect, in whom my soul delighteth:
I have put my Spirit upon him;—he shall bring forth judgment to the Gentiles.
He shall not cry, nor lift up,—nor cause his voice to be heard in the street.
A bruised reed shall he not break,
And the smoking flax shall he not quench:
He shall bring forth judgment unto truth.—*Isa.* xlii. 1–3.

He came unto his own, and his own received him not. But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name.—*John* i. 11, 12.

Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to-day, and for ever.—*Heb.* xiii. 8. The true God, and eternal life.—1 *John* v. 20.

## *The Nobleman, for his Son.*

In the fear of the Lord is strong confidence;—and his children shall have a place of refuge.—*Prov.* xiv. 26.

JOHN iv. 46.

There was a certain nobleman, whose son was sick at Capernaum. When he heard that Jesus was come out of Judea into Galilee, he went unto him, and besought him that he would come down and heal his son: for he was at the point of death. Then said Jesus unto him, Except ye see signs and wonders, ye will not believe. The nobleman saith unto him,

PRAYER—*v.* 49.

SIR, come down ere my child die.

ANSWER—*v.* 50, 53.

Jesus saith unto him, Go thy way; thy son liveth. And the man believed the word that Jesus had spoken

unto him, and he went his way. And as he was now going down, his servants met him, and told him, saying, Thy son liveth. . . . . And himself believed, and his whole house.

PROMISE—Acts xvi. 31.

Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.

## *Peter, at the Miraculous Draught of Fishes.*

Behold, the heaven, and the heaven of heavens, is the Lord's thy God, the earth also, with all that therein is.—*Deut.* x. 14.

LUKE v. 4.

He said unto Simon, Launch out into the deep, and let down your nets for a draught. And Simon answering, said unto him, Master, we have toiled all the night, and have taken nothing: nevertheless, at thy word I will let down the net. And when they had this done, they inclosed a great multitude of fishes; and their net brake. And they beckoned unto their partners, which were in the other ship, that they should come and help them. And they came, and filled both the ships, so that they began to sink. When Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying,

PRAYER—*v.* 8.

DEPART from me; for I am a sinful man, O Lord.

ANSWER—*v.* 10, 11.

And Jesus said unto Simon, Fear not; from henceforth thou shalt catch men. And when they had

brought their ships to land, they forsook all, and followed him.

PROMISE—ROM. vi. 22.

Now, being made free from sin, and become servants to God, ye have your fruit unto holiness, and the end everlasting life.

## *A Leper, for Cleansing.*

The Lord taketh pleasure in them that fear him,—in those that hope in his mercy.—*Ps.* cxlvii. 11.

MARK i. 40.

And there came a leper to him, beseeching him, and kneeling down to him, and saying unto him,

PRAYER.

IF thou wilt, thou canst make me clean.

ANSWER—*v.* 41, 42.

And Jesus, moved with compassion, put forth his hand, and touched him, and saith unto him, I will; be thou clean. And as soon as he had spoken, immediately the leprosy departed from him, and he was cleansed.

PROMISE—MATT. xviii. 11, 14.

The Son of man is come to save that which was lost. . . . . Even so it is not the will of your Father which is in heaven, that one of these little ones should *perish.*

## *The Centurion, concerning his Servant.*

I will also give thee for a light to the Gentiles,
That thou mayest be my salvation unto the end of the earth.—
*Isa.* xlix. 6.

LUKE vii. 2.

A certain centurion's servant, who was dear unto him, was sick, and ready to die. And when he heard of Jesus, he sent unto him the elders of the Jews, beseeching him that he would come and heal his servant. And when they came to Jesus, they besought him instantly, saying, that he was worthy for whom he should do this: for he loveth our nation, and he hath built us a synagogue. Then Jesus went with them. And when he was now not far from the house, the centurion sent friends to him, saying unto him,

PRAYER—*v.* 6.

LORD, trouble not thyself; for I am not worthy that thou shouldest enter under my roof: wherefore neither thought I myself worthy to come unto thee: but say in a word, and my servant shall be healed. For I also am a man set under authority, having under me soldiers; and I say unto one, Go, and he goeth: and to another, Come, and he cometh; and to my servant, Do this, and he doeth it.

ANSWER—*v.* 9, 10.

When Jesus heard these things, he marvelled at him, and turned him about, and said unto the people that followed him, I say unto you, I have not found so great faith, no, not in Israel. And they that were sent, returning to the house, found the servant whole that had been sick.

PROMISE—JOHN xiv. 12.

Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father.

## *The Disciples, in the Storm.*

A man shall be as an hiding-place from the wind,—and a covert from the tempest;
As rivers of water in a dry place;—as the shadow of a great rock in a weary land.—*Isa.* xxxii. 2.

MATT. viii. 24.

Behold, there arose a great tempest in the sea, insomuch that the ship was covered with the waves: but he was asleep. And his disciples came to him, and awoke him, saying,

PRAYER—*v.* 25.

LORD, save us: we perish.

ANSWER—*v.* 26.

And he saith unto them, Why are ye fearful, O ye of little faith? Then he arose, and rebuked the winds and the sea; and there was a great calm.

PROMISE—LUKE xii. 6, 7.

Are not five sparrows sold for two farthings, and not one of them is forgotten before God? But even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not therefore: ye are of more value than many sparrows.

## *Jairus, for his Daughter.*

**It is good that a man should both hope and quietly wait for the salvation of the Lord.—*Lam.* iii. 26.**

MARK v. 22.

Behold, there cometh one of the rulers of the synagogue, Jairus by name; and when he saw him, he fell at his feet, and besought him greatly, saying,

PRAYER—*v.* 23.

MY little daughter lieth at the point of death: I pray thee, come and lay thy hands on her, that she may be healed; and she shall live.

ANSWER—*v.* 24, 35, 41, 42.

And Jesus went with him; and . . . there came from the ruler of the synagogue's house certain which said, Thy daughter is dead: why troublest thou the Master any further? As soon as Jesus heard the word that was spoken, he saith unto the ruler of the synagogue, Be not afraid, only believe. And he suffered no man to follow him, save Peter, and James, and John the brother of James. And he cometh to the house of the ruler of the synagogue, . . . . and he took the damsel by the hand, and said unto her, Talitha cumi; which is, being interpreted, Damsel, I say unto thee, arise. And straightway the damsel arose, and walked; for she was of the age of twelve years. And they were astonished with a great astonishment.

PROMISE—JOHN xiv. 13, 14.

Whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If ye shall ask anything in my name, I will do it.

## *Two Blind Men, for Sight.*

Turn you to the strong hold, ye prisoners of hope.—*Zech.* ix. 12.

MATT. ix. 27.

When Jesus departed thence, two blind men followed him, crying, and saying,

PRAYER.

THOU son of David, have mercy on us.

ANSWER—*v.* 28–30.

And when he was come into the house, the blind men came to him: and Jesus saith unto them, Believe ye that I am able to do this? They said unto him, Yea, Lord. Then touched he their eyes, saying, According to your faith be it unto you. And their eyes were opened: and Jesus straitly charged them, saying, See that no man know it.

PROMISE—ACTS x. 43.

To him give all the prophets witness, that, through his name, whosoever believeth in him shall receive remission of sins.

## *Peter, when he walked on the Water.*

Say to them that are of a fearful heart,—Be strong, fear not.—*Isa.* xxxv. 4.

MATT. xiv. 22.

Jesus constrained his disciples to get into a ship, and to go before him unto the other side, while he sent the multitudes away. And when he had sent the multitudes away, he went up into a mountain apart to

pray: and when the evening was come, he was there alone. But the ship was now in the midst of the sea, tossed with waves: for the wind was contrary. And in the fourth watch of the night Jesus went unto them, walking on the sea. And when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were troubled, saying, It is a spirit; and they cried out for fear. But straightway Jesus spake unto them, saying, Be of good cheer: It is I; be not afraid. And Peter answered him and said,

PRAYER—*v.* 28.

LORD, if it be thou, bid me come unto thee on the water.

ANSWER—*v.* 29.

And he said, Come. And when Peter was come down out of the ship, he walked on the water, to go to Jesus. But when he saw the wind boisterous, he was afraid; and, beginning to sink, he cried, saying,

PRAYER—*v.* 30.

LORD, save me!

ANSWER—*v.* 31-33.

And immediately Jesus stretched forth his hand, and caught him, and said unto him, O thou of little faith, wherefore didst thou doubt? And when they were come into the ship, the wind ceased. Then they that were in the ship came and worshipped him, saying, Of a truth thou art the Son of God.

PROMISE—HEB. ii. 18.

In that he himself hath suffered, being tempted, he is able to succour them that are tempted.

## *The People, for the Bread of Life.*

Ho, every one that thirsteth,—come ye to the waters,
And he that hath no money:—come ye, buy and eat;
Yea, come, buy wine and milk—without money, and without price.—*Isa.* lv. 1.

JOHN vi. 32.

Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Moses gave you not that bread from heaven; but my Father giveth you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is he which cometh down from heaven, and giveth life unto the world. Then said they unto him,

PRAYER—*v.* 34.

LORD, evermore give us this bread.

ANSWER—*v.* 35.

And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst.

PROMISE—REV. xxi. 6.

He said unto me, It is done. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end: I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely.

## *The Woman of Canaan, for her Daughter.*

I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the Lord,
Thoughts of peace, and not of evil,—to give you an expected end.
—*Jer.* xxix. 11.

MATT. xv. 22.

Behold, a woman of Canaan came out of the same coasts, and cried unto him, saying,

PRAYER.

HAVE mercy on me, O Lord, thou son of David; my daughter is grievously vexed with a devil.

ANSWER—*v.* 23.

But he answered her not a word. And his disciples came and besought him, saying, Send her away; for she crieth after us. But he answered and said, I am not sent but unto the lost sheep of the house of Israel. Then came she and worshipped him, saying,

PRAYER—*v.* 25.

LORD, help me!

ANSWER—*v.* 26.

But he answered and said, It is not meet to take the children's bread, and to cast it to dogs. And she said,

PRAYER—*v.* 27.

TRUTH, Lord: yet the dogs eat of the crumbs which fall from their master's table.

ANSWER—*v.* 28.

Then Jesus answered and said unto her, O woman, great is thy faith: be it unto thee even as thou wilt. And her daughter was made whole from that very hour.

PROMISE—ROM. x. 11, 12; GAL. vi. 9.

Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed.

For there is no difference between the Jew and the Greek; for the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon him.

And let us not be weary in well-doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.

## *A Father, for his Demoniac Son.*

**Cast thy burden upon the Lord, and he shall sustain thee.—*Ps.* lv. 22.**

MARK ix. 17.

One of the multitude answered and said,

PRAYER—*v.* 17, 18.

MASTER, I have brought unto thee my son, which hath a dumb spirit: and wheresoever he taketh him, he teareth him; and he foameth, and gnasheth with his teeth, and pineth away: and I spake to thy disciples that they should cast him out; and they could not.

ANSWER—*v.* 23.

Jesus said unto him, If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth. And straightway the father of the child cried out, and said with tears,

PRAYER—*v.* 24.

LORD, I believe; help thou mine unbelief.

ANSWER—*v.* 25-29.

When Jesus saw that the people came running together, he rebuked the foul spirit, saying unto him, *Thou dumb* and deaf spirit, I charge thee, come out of

him, and enter no more into him. And the spirit cried, and rent him sore, and came out of him: and he was as one dead; insomuch that many said, He is dead. But Jesus took him by the hand, and lifted him up; and he arose. And when he was come into the house, his disciples asked him privately, Why could not we cast him out? And he said unto them, This kind can come forth by nothing but by prayer and fasting.

PROMISE—JAMES v. 15.

The prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him.

## *Those who would follow Him on Conditions.*

Choose you this day whom ye will serve.—*Josh.* xxiv. 15.

LUKE ix. 57.

It came to pass, that, as they went in the way, a certain man said unto him, Lord, I will follow thee whithersoever thou goest. And Jesus said unto him, Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of man hath not where to lay his head. And he said unto another, Follow me. But he said,

PRAYER—*v.* 59.

LORD, suffer me first to go and bury my father.

ANSWER—*v.* 60.

Jesus said unto him, Let the dead bury their dead;

but go thou and preach the kingdom of God. And another also said,

PRAYER—*v.* 61.

LORD, I will follow thee; but let me first go bid them farewell which are at home at my house.

ANSWER—*v.* 62.

And Jesus said unto him, No man, having put his hand to the plough, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God.

PROMISE—MATT. vi. 33.

Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

## *Martha, when cumbered about much Serving.*

Blessed is the man that heareth me,
Watching daily at my gates,—waiting at the posts of my doors.
For whoso findeth me findeth life,—and shall obtain favour of the Lord. —*Prov.* viii. 34, 35.

LUKE x. 38.

It came to pass, as they went, that he entered into a certain village: and a certain woman named Martha received him into her house. And she had a sister called Mary, which also sat at Jesus' feet, and heard his word. But Martha was cumbered about much serving, and came to him, and said,

PRAYER—*v.* 40.

LORD, dost thou not care that my sister hath left me to serve alone? bid her therefore that she help me.

ANSWER—*v.* 41, 42.

And Jesus answered and said unto her, Martha, Martha, thou art careful and troubled about many things: but one thing is needful: and Mary hath chosen that good part, which shall not be taken away from her.

PROMISE—1 PETER v. 7.

Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.

## *A Disciple, to be Taught to Pray.*

Do not my words do good to him that walketh uprightly?—*Micah* ii. 7.

LUKE xi. 1.

It came to pass, that, as he was praying in a certain place, when he ceased, one of his disciples said unto him,

PRAYER.

LORD, teach us to pray, as John also taught his disciples.

ANSWER—*v.* 2–4.

And he said unto them, When ye pray, say, Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, as in heaven, so in earth. Give us day by day our daily bread. And forgive us our sins: for we also forgive every one that is indebted to us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil.

PROMISE—*v.* 9, 10; JOHN xvi. 24.

And I say unto you, Ask, and it shall be given you;

seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you. For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.

Hitherto have ye asked nothing in my name: ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full.

## *The Apostles, for Increase of Faith.*

Not by might, nor by power,—but by my Spirit, saith the Lord of hosts.
Who art thou, O great mountain?—before Zerubbabel thou shalt become a plain.—*Zech.* iv. 6, 7.

LUKE xvii. 5.

The apostles said unto the Lord,

PRAYER.

INCREASE our faith.

ANSWER—*v.* 6.

And the Lord said, If ye had faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye might say unto this sycamine tree, Be thou plucked up by the root, and be thou planted in the sea; and it should obey you.

PROMISE—MATT. xxi. 22.

And all things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive.

## *The Ten Lepers, for Mercy.*

I am the Lord that healeth thee.—*Exod.* xv. 26.

LUKE xvii. 12.

As he entered into a certain village, there met him ten men that were lepers, which stood afar off: and they lifted up their voices, and said,

PRAYER—*v.* 13.

JESUS, Master, have mercy on us.

ANSWER—*v.* 14–19.

And when he saw them, he said unto them, Go show yourselves unto the priests. And it came to pass, that, as they went, they were cleansed. And one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, and with a loud voice glorified God, and fell down on his face at his feet, giving him thanks: and he was a Samaritan. And Jesus answering said, Were there not ten cleansed? but where are the nine? There are not found that returned to give glory to God, save this stranger. And he said unto him, Arise, go thy way; thy faith hath made thee whole.

PROMISE—REV. xxii. 14.

Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city.

## *Peter, concerning the Reward.*

**A full reward be given thee of the Lord God of Israel, under whose wings thou art come to trust.—*Ruth* ii. 12.**

MATT. xix. 23, 27.

Then said Jesus unto his disciples, Verily I say unto you, That a rich man shall hardly enter into the kingdom

of heaven. . . . . Then answered Peter and said unto him,

PRAYER—*v.* 27.

BEHOLD, we have forsaken all, and followed thee; what shall we have therefore?

ANSWER—*v.* 28.

And Jesus said unto them, Verily I say unto you, That ye which have followed me, in the regeneration, when the Son of man shall sit in the throne of his glory, ye also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

PROMISE—*v.* 29.

And every one that hath forsaken houses, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my name's sake, shall receive an hundredfold, and shall inherit everlasting life.

## *Zebedee's Wife, for her Two Sons.*

**They that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever.—*Dan.* xii. 3.**

MATT. XX. 20.

Then came to him the mother of Zebedee's children with her sons, worshipping him, and desiring a certain thing of him. And he said unto her, What wilt thou? She saith unto him,

PRAYER—*v.* 21.

GRANT that these my two sons may sit, the one on thy right hand, and the other on the left, in thy kingdom.

ANSWER—*v.* 22, 23.

But Jesus answered and said, Ye know not what ye ask. Are ye able to drink of the cup that I shall drink of, and to be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with? They say unto him, We are able. And he saith unto them, Ye shall drink indeed of my cup, and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with: but to sit on my right hand, and on my left, is not mine to give, but it shall be given to them for whom it is prepared of my Father.

PROMISE—2 TIM. ii. 11, 12.

It is a faithful saying: For if we be dead with him, we shall also live with him: if we suffer, we shall also reign with him: if we deny him, he also will deny us.

## *Bartimeus, for Sight.*

Seek ye the Lord while he may be found,
Call ye upon him while he is near.—*Isa.* lv. 6.

MARK x. 46.

As he went out of Jericho with his disciples, and a great number of people, blind Bartimeus, the son of Timeus, sat by the highway-side begging. And when he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to cry out, and say,

PRAYER—*v.* 47.

JESUS, thou son of David, have mercy on me.

*v.* 48.

And many charged him that he should hold his peace: but he cried the more a great deal,

PRAYER.

THOU son of David, have mercy on me.

ANSWER—*v.* 49.

And Jesus stood still, and commanded him to be called. And they call the blind man, saying unto him, Be of good comfort, rise; he calleth thee. And he, casting away his garment, rose, and came to Jesus. And Jesus answered and said unto him, What wilt thou that I should do unto thee? The blind man said unto him,

PRAYER—*v.* 51.

LORD, that I might receive my sight.

ANSWER—*v.* 52.

And Jesus said unto him, Go thy way; thy faith hath made thee whole. And immediately he received his sight, and followed Jesus in the way.

PROMISE—JOHN viii. 12.

I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.

## *Peter, when Jesus washed the Disciples' Feet.*

Surely, shall one say, in the Lord have I righteousness and strength—*Isa.* xlv. 24.

JOHN xiii. 3.

Jesus knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he was come from God, and

went to God; he riseth from supper, and laid aside his garments; and took a towel, and girded himself. After that he poureth water into a bason, and began to wash the disciples' feet, and to wipe them with the towel wherewith he was girded. Then cometh he to Simon Peter: and Peter said unto him, Lord, dost thou wash my feet? Jesus answered and said unto him, What I do thou knowest not now; but thou shalt know hereafter. Peter saith unto him, Thou shalt never wash my feet. Jesus answered him, If I wash thee not, thou hast no part with me. Simon Peter saith unto him,

PRAYER—*v.* 9.

LORD, not my feet only, but also my hands and my head.

ANSWER—*v.* 10.

Jesus saith to him, He that is washed needeth not, save to wash his feet, but is clean every whit; and ye are clean, but not all.

PROMISE—Heb. vii. 25.

He is able also to save them to the uttermost * that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them.

## *The Penitent Thief, for Salvation.*

I said not unto the seed of Jacob, Seek ye me in vain.—*Isa.* xlv. 19.

LUKE xxiii. 39.

One of the malefactors which were hanged railed on

* *Margin*, Evermore.

him, saying, If thou be Christ, save thyself and us. But the other, answering, rebuked him, saying, Dost not thou fear God, seeing thou art in the same condemnation? And we indeed justly; for we receive the due reward of our deeds: but this man hath done nothing amiss. And he said unto Jesus,

PRAYER—*v.* 42.

LORD, remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom.

ANSWER—*v.* 43.

And Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, To-day shalt thou be with me in paradise.

PROMISE—JOHN vi. 37.

All that the Father giveth me shall come to me: and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out.

## *Two Disciples, when journeying to Emmaus.*

Joseph is yet alive.—*Gen.* xlv. 26.

LUKE xxiv. 13, 28.

Behold, two of them went that same day to a village called Emmaus, which was from Jerusalem about threescore furlongs. And they talked together of all these things which had happened. And it came to pass, that, while they communed together, and reasoned, Jesus himself drew near, and went with them. But their eyes were holden that they should not know him. . . . . And they drew nigh unto the village whither

they went: and he made as though he would have gone further. But they constrained him, saying,

PRAYER—*v.* 29.

ABIDE with us; for it is toward evening, and the day is far spent.

ANSWER—*v.* 29–33.

And he went in to tarry with them. And it came to pass, as he sat at meat with them, he took bread, and blessed it, and brake, and gave to them. And their eyes were opened, and they knew him; and he vanished out of their sight. And they said one to another, Did not our heart burn within us, while he talked with us by the way, and while he opened to us the scriptures? And they rose up the same hour, and returned to Jerusalem.

PROMISE—JOHN xiv. 2, 3.

I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be be also.

## *The Apostles, before Christ's Ascension.*

**I will wait for the Lord, my soul doth wait,—and in his word do I hope.—*Ps.* cxxx. 5.**

ACTS i. 6.

When they therefore were come together, they asked of him, saying,

PRAYER.

LORD, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel?

ANSWER—*v.* 7–11.

And he said unto them, It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power. But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem; and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth. And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight. And, while they looked stedfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel; which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven.

PROMISE—2 PET. iii. 9.

The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is long-suffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.

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# THE PRODIGAL SON'S PRAYER.

**The Lord thy God in the midst of thee is mighty;**
**He will save, he will rejoice over thee with joy;**
**He will rest in his love; he will joy over thee with singing.—**
*Zeph.* iii. 17.

LUKE xv. 17.

When he came to himself, he said, How many hired servants of my father's have bread enough, and to spare, and I perish with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and will say unto him, Father, I have sinned against Heaven, and before thee, and am no more worthy to be called thy son: make me as one of thy hired servants. And he arose, and came to his father. But when he was yet a great way off, his father saw him, and had compassion, and ran, and fell on his neck, and kissed him. And the son said unto him,

PRAYER—*v.* 21.

FATHER, I have sinned against Heaven, and in thy sight, and am no more worthy to be called thy son—

ANSWER—*v.* 22–24.

But the father said to his servants, Bring forth the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet: and bring hither the fatted calf, and kill it; and let us eat, and be merry: for this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found. And they began to make merry.

PROMISE—*v.* 10.

Likewise, I say unto you, There is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth.

# THE PUBLICAN'S PRAYER.

To this man will I look,
Even to him that is poor, and of a contrite spirit,—and trembleth at my word.—*Isa.* lxvi. 2.

LUKE xviii. 9.

He spake this parable unto certain which trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and despised others: two men went up into the temple to pray; the one a Pharisee, and the other a publican. The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, God, I thank thee, that I am not as other men are, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this publican. I fast twice in the week, I give tithes of all that I possess. And the publican, standing afar off, would not lift up so much as his eyes unto heaven, but smote upon his breast, saying,

PRAYER—*v.* 13.

GOD be merciful to me a sinner.

ANSWER—*v.* 14.

I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other: for every one that exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted.

PROMISE—1 TIM. i. 15.

This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.

# THE APOSTLES, AFTER CHRIST'S ASCENSION.

## *At the Appointment of Matthias.*

Blessed is the man whom thou choosest.—*Ps.* lxv. 4.

ACTS i. 23.

They appointed two, Joseph called Barsabas, who was surnamed Justus, and Matthias. And they prayed, and said,

PRAYER—*v.* 24.

THOU, Lord, which knowest the hearts of all men, show whether of these two thou hast chosen, that he may take part of this ministry and apostleship, from which Judas by transgression fell, that he might go to his own place.

ANSWER—*v.* 26.

And they gave forth their lots: and the lot fell upon Matthias; and he was numbered with the eleven apostles.

PROMISE—JOHN xv. 16.

Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain; that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you.

## *When Commanded to cease Preaching Jesus.*

Fear ye not the reproach of men—neither be ye afraid of their revilings.—*Isa.* li. 7.

ACTS iv. 23.

Being let go, they went to their own company, and reported all that the chief priests and elders had said unto them. And when they heard that, they lifted up their voice to God with one accord, and said,

PRAYER—*v.* 24.

LORD, thou art God, which hast made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and all that in them is; who by the mouth of thy servant David hast said, Why did the heathen rage, and the people imagine vain things? The kings of the earth stood up, and the rulers were gathered together against the Lord, and against his Christ. For of a truth, against thy holy child Jesus, whom thou hast anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, with the Gentiles, and the people of Israel, were gathered together, for to do whatsoever thy hand and thy counsel determined before to be done. And now, Lord, behold their threatenings: and grant unto thy servants, that with all boldness they may speak thy word, by stretching forth thine hand to heal; and that signs and wonders may be done by the name of thy holy child Jesus.

ANSWER—*v.* 31, 33.

And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness. . . . . And with great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus: and great grace was upon them all.

PROMISE—MARK viii. 34, 35.

Whosoever will come after me, let him deny him-

self, and take up his cross, and follow me. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it; but whosoever shall lose his life for my sake and the Gospel's, the same shall save it.

## *Stephen, when suffering Martyrdom.*

**Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints.—*Ps.* cxvi. 15.**

ACTS vii. 54.

When they heard these things, they were cut to the heart, and they gnashed on him with their teeth. But he, being full of the Holy Ghost, looked up stedfastly into heaven, and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing on the right hand of God, and said, Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing on the right hand of God. Then they cried out with a loud voice, and stopped their ears, and ran upon him with one accord, and cast him out of the city, and stoned him: and the witnesses laid down their clothes at a young man's feet, whose name was Saul. And they stoned Stephen, calling upon God, and saying,

PRAYER—*v.* 59.

LORD JESUS, receive my spirit.

*v.* 60.

And he kneeled down, and cried with a loud voice,

PRAYER.

LORD, lay not this sin to their charge.

And when he had said this, he fell asleep.

PROMISE—REV. ii. 10.

Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer: . . . . be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life.

# APOCALYPTIC PRAYERS.

## *The Souls of the Martyrs.*

My soul, wait thou only upon God;—for my expectation is from him.—*Ps.* lxii. 5.

REV. vi. 9.

When he had opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of them that were slain for the word of God, and for the testimony which they held: and they cried with a loud voice, saying,

PRAYER—*v.* 10.

HOW long, O Lord, holy and true, dost thou not judge and avenge our blood on them that dwell on the earth?

ANSWER—*v.* 11.

And white robes were given unto every one of them; and it was said unto them, that they should rest yet for a little season, until their fellow-servants also, and their brethren, that should be killed as they were, should be fulfilled.

PROMISE—LUKE xviii. 7, 8.

Shall not God avenge his own elect, which cry day and night unto him, though he bear long with them? *I tell* you that he will avenge them speedily.

## *The Four and Twenty Elders.*

His dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed.—*Dan.* vii. 14.

REV. xi. 16.

The four and twenty elders, which sat before God on their seats, fell upon their faces, and worshipped God, saying,

PRAYER—*v.* 17.

WE give thee thanks, O Lord God Almighty, which art, and wast, and art to come; because thou hast taken to thee thy great power, and hast reigned. And the nations were angry, and thy wrath is come, and the time of the dead, that they should be judged, and that thou shouldest give reward unto thy servants the prophets, and to the saints, and them that fear thy name, small and great; and shouldest destroy them which destroy the earth.

*v.* 19.

And the temple of God was opened in heaven, and there was seen in his temple the ark of his testament: and there were lightnings, and voices, and thunderings, and an earthquake, and great hail.

PROMISE—2 PET. iii. 13.

We, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness.

## *A Prayer for Christ's Coming Quickly.*

Hath he said, and shall he not do it?—or hath he spoken, and shall he not make it good?—*Num.* xxiii. 19.

REV. xxii. 20.

He which testifieth these things saith, Surely I come quickly.

PRAYER.

AMEN. Even so, come, Lord Jesus.

*v.* 21.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.

# APPENDIX.

## APOSTOLIC DESIRES IN PRAYER FOR BELIEVERS.

### PAUL.

1 Thess. iii. 11, 13.

Now God himself and our Father, and our Lord Jesus Christ, direct our way unto you. And the Lord make you to increase and abound in love one toward another, and toward all men, even as we do toward you: to the end he may stablish your hearts unblameable in holiness before God, even our Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all his saints.

1 Thess. v. 23, 24.

The very God of peace sanctify you wholly: and I pray God your whole spirit, and soul, and body, be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. Faithful is he that calleth you, who also will do it.

2 Thess. i. 11, 12.

We pray always for you, that our God would count you worthy of this calling, and fulfil all the good

pleasure of his goodness, and the work of faith with power; that the name of our Lord Jesus Christ may be glorified in you, and ye in him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.

2 THESS. ii. 16, 17.

Now our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God, even our Father, which hath loved us, and hath given us everlasting consolation, and good hope through grace, comfort your hearts, and stablish you in every good word and work.

2 THESS. iii. 5, 16.

The Lord direct your hearts into the love of God, and into the patient waiting for Christ.

Now the Lord of peace himself give you peace always by all means. The Lord be with you all.

ROM. xv. 5, 6, 13.

Now the God of patience and consolation grant you to be like-minded one toward another, according to Christ Jesus; that ye may with one mind and one mouth glorify God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that ye may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Ghost.

EPH. i. 15–23.

I also, after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus, and love unto all the saints, cease not to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers; that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation

in the knowledge of him: the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints, and what is the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power, which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places, far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come: and hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church, which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all.

EPH. iii. 14–19.

I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, that he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man; that Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height; and to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God.

COLOS. i. 9–13.

We . . . . do not cease to pray for you, and to desire that ye might be filled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; that ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge

of God; strengthened with all might, according to his glorious power, unto all patience and long-suffering with joyfulness; giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light: who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son.

PHILEM. 4–6.

I thank my God, making mention of thee always in my prayers, hearing of thy love and faith, which thou hast toward the Lord Jesus, and toward all saints; that the communication of thy faith may become effectual, by the acknowledging of every good thing which is in you in Christ Jesus.

PHIL. i. 9–11.

This I pray, that your love may abound yet more and more in knowledge and in all judgment; that ye may approve things that are excellent; that ye may be sincere, and without offence, till the day of Christ; being filled with the fruits of righteousness, which are by Jesus Christ, unto the glory and praise of God.

HEB. xiii. 20, 21.

Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. *Amen.*

2 Tim. i. 16–18.

The Lord give mercy unto the house of Onesiphorus; for he oft refreshed me, and was not ashamed of my chain: but, when he was in Rome, he sought me out very diligently, and found me. The Lord grant unto him that he may find mercy of the Lord in that day: and in how many things he ministered unto me at Ephesus, thou knowest very well.

## PETER.

1 Peter v. 10, 11.

The God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle you: to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

## EXHORTATIONS TO PRAYER.

*For the Servants of Christ.*

2 Thess. iii. 1, 2.

Finally, brethren, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may have free course, and be glorified, even as it is with you; and that we may be delivered from unreasonable and wicked men; for all men have not faith.

Rom. xv. 30–33.

Now I beseech you, brethren, for the Lord Jesus Christ's sake, and for the love of the Spirit, that ye strive together with me in your prayers to God for me; that I may be delivered from them that do not believe in Judea; and that my service which I have for Jeru-

salem may be accepted of the saints; that I may come unto you with joy by the will of God, and may with you be refreshed. Now the God of peace be with you all. Amen.

EPH. vi. 18–20.

Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints; and for me, that utterance may be given unto me, that I may open my mouth boldly, to make known the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in bonds; that therein I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak.

COL. iv. 2–4.

Continue in prayer, and watch in the same with thanksgiving; withal praying also for us, that God would open unto us a door of utterance, to speak the mystery of Christ, for which I am also in bonds; that I may make it manifest, as I ought to speak.

*For Persecutors.*

MATT. v. 44–45.

Pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you; that ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven.

*For Kings, Governors, and all Men.*

1 TIM. ii. 1–4, 8.

I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men; for kings, and for all that are in authority;

that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty. For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour; who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth. . . . . I will therefore that men pray everywhere, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting.

### *General.*

LUKE xviii. 1.

He spake a parable unto them to this end, that men ought always to pray, and not to faint.

LUKE xxi. 36.

Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man.

1 THESS. v. 17.

Pray without ceasing.

ROM. xii. 12.

Rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer.

PHIL. iv. 6, 7.

Be careful for nothing; but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

1 PET. iv. 7.

The end of all things is at hand: be ye therefore sober, and watch unto prayer.

# DOXOLOGIES.

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ROM. xi. 36.

For of him, and through him, and to him, are all things: to whom be glory for ever. Amen.

ROM. xvi. 25–27.

Now to him that is of power to stablish you according to my gospel, and the preaching of Jesus Christ, (according to the revelation of the mystery, which was kept secret since the world began, but now is made manifest, and by the scriptures of the prophets, according to the commandment of the everlasting God, made known to all nations for the obedience of faith;) to God only wise, be glory through Jesus Christ for ever. Amen.

EPH. iii. 20, 21.

Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us, unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world *without* end. Amen.

PHIL. iv. 20.

Now unto God and our Father be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

1 TIM. i. 17.

Now unto the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God, be honour and glory for ever and ever. Amen.

1 TIM. vi. 15, 16.

In his times he shall show, who is the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings, and Lord of lords; who only hath immortality, dwelling in the light which no man can approach unto; whom no man hath seen, nor can see: to whom be honour and power everlasting. Amen.

JUDE 24, 25.

Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy, to the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen.

REV. i. 5–7.

Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood, and hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father; to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him.

Even so, Amen.

2 Cor. xiii. 14.

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Ghost, be with you all. Amen.

THE END.

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